

HM SENDS CONGRATULATIONS

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of congratulations to President Zuzana Caputová of the Slovak Republic on her country's national day. In his cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere congratulations and best wishes to President Caputová and her country's friendly people. **-ONA**



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HM SENDS CONDOLENCES TO PRESIDENT OF INDIA

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of condolences to Ram Nath Kovind, President of the Republic of India, on the death of former Indian President Pranab Mukherjee. In his cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere condolences to President Ram Nath Kovind, the deceased family and the friendly Indian people. **-ONA**



Founded 1975 · Volume 45 No. 124 | 16 Pages · Baisas 200 · Subscription OMR63 | ISO 9001:2008 Certified Company | Chairman/Editor-in-Chief: Mohamed Issa Al Zadjali | Printed & Published by Muscat Media Group

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CABLE

HM sends greetings to President of Uzbekistan

MUSCAT: His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has sent a cable of congratulations to President Shavkat Mirziyoyev of the Republic of Uzbekistan on his country's Independence Anniversary.

In his cable, His Majesty expressed his sincere congratulations and best wishes of good health and well-being to President Mirziyoyev and the Uzbek people further progress and prosperity. **-ONA**

APPRECIATION

Fahd receives former Cabinet members

MUSCAT: His Highness Sayyid Fahd bin Mahmoud Al Said, Deputy Prime Minister for the Council of Ministers, received at his office yesterday former members of the Council of Ministers.

After a welcome note, Sayyid Fahd underscored His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik's commendation of the former Cabinet members' contribution towards the missions entrusted to them.

Expressed thanks

Sayyid Fahd expressed his thanks and appreciation for the constructive efforts exerted by the former Cabinet members.

"Your constructive efforts con-



tributed to the steps and procedures undertaken during the past period," said Sayyid Fahd, adding that the former Cabinet members' expertise will reflect posi-

tively on the national action.

The ex-cabinet members valued the formidable support they received which, they reaffirmed, enabled them to per-

form their missions.

They expressed their willingness to offer their expertise in the service of this dear homeland and its wise leadership.

The meeting was attended by the Secretary-General of the Council of Ministers.

-ONA
More photos >A2

COVID-19 IMPACT MEASURED ACROSS 7 SECTORS IN OMAN



Different private and public sector entities have responded differently to the pandemic

Times News Service

MUSCAT: The impact of COVID-19 has been felt differently across seven of Oman's key economic sectors, according to a new research paper.

The paper is jointly written by Dr Hesham Magd and Dr Venkat Ram Raj Thumiki of the Modern College of Business and Science (MCBS), Faculty of Business and Economics, and looks at the impact of COVID-19 across the real

estate, tourism and hospitality, manufacturing, education, logistics and transport, aviation, and agriculture and fisheries.

Snapshot

Titled 'A snapshot of socio-economic impact of COVID-19 on the Sultanate of Oman: Measures and coping strategies', the paper also identifies how private and public organisations involved in these activities took steps to mitigate the worst of the pandemic.

However, they add, some sectors, much like they have been impacted all over the world, such as tourism and aviation have, been far more affected by the pandemic than others.

Logistics sector

"The logistics sector has contributed OMR1.091 billion in 2019 which is 3.73 per cent of the GDP," said Magd, who is the faculty's head and Associate Dean of Quality and Accreditation.

"Such an attractive sector has been affected by COVID-19 due to restrictions on the movement of people and goods. Despite the negative effects of COVID-19, the performance of Omani ports has been positive with around 2,500 vessels visiting Omani ports in the first quarter of 2020. It is only

local trade and not international trade as Omani maritime trade is moderately impacted by COVID-19."

"Oman's higher education sector is mildly affected by COVID-19 as all higher educational institutions have transitioned to function online," added Thumiki, an assistant professor at MCBS.

Reduced fees

"The Government Communication Centre has decided to suspend the National Programme for Postgraduate Studies for a year considering the ongoing global COVID-19 pandemic. Schools in Oman have reduced fees as a show of support to the parents, which has totalled approximately OMR1.1 million, which could affect their future operations." **>A5**

REAL ESTATE

This sector has been impacted significantly in terms of rent collection, property deals and real estate transactions

AVIATION

It has become imperative to pursue the recovery plan to resume flights in the Sultanate, owing to its contribution to the country

EDUCATION

The transition from traditional to online modes of education meant this sector was not strongly impacted by the pandemic

LOGISTICS AND TRANSPORTATION

Oman continues to aim to become a logistics and transportation hub in the region, with the performance of the Sultanate's ports remaining positive

MANUFACTURING

Local manufacturers used the challenges thrown up by the pandemic to successfully create alternative strategies to function at this time

AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES

Oman had the highest fish catch among the Gulf countries last year, but the impact of COVID-19 on the retail market has affected food sales.

TOURISM AND HOSPITALITY

Key to tourism growth and income contribution in the country are domestic and international travellers. Their absence means tourism has been greatly affected by the disease

TOP THREE INSIDE STORIES

OMAN



Airlines in Oman ready to start flights

1 Airlines in Oman have announced their readiness to start operations, once flights are given the green light to resume. National carrier Oman Air has announced on Monday that its planes and staff across the country are ready to resume flight services. A statement issued by Oman Air said: "Our planes and people are ready and Oman's airports are ready too. When we can fly, we will provide safe, careful service to our guests, along with all travel-related information and requirements."

>A3

OMAN

'Call to achieve Oman Vision goals'



2 A concerted effort should be made to achieve the goals of Oman Vision 2040 as envisioned by His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, said Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion. He said that the Royal directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has stressed the need for streamlining procedures of government services for investors and customers through the prompt finalisation of their transactions in the shortest possible time. **>A5**

MARKET

Deal for fish trade through Port of Duqm

3 The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources (MAFWR) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Port of Duqm Company (PDC) to approve and facilitate fish exports and imports through the commercial port of Duqm. The MoU was signed by Eng. Yaqoob bin Khalfan Al Busaidi, MAFWR Undersecretary for Fisheries and Reggy Vermeulen, CEO of PDC. The memorandum shall enter into force on the effective date specified in the memorandum. **>B1**

ECONOMY

VAT implementation to boost revenues by OMR400mn

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Earnings from value added tax (VAT) are estimated to bring an additional OMR400 million per annum to Oman's economy.

The country's Majlis Al Shura will today discuss the draft of the VAT law, as part of the process required to make it into law.

A statement from the office of the Secretary General of the Shura Council, said, "The council will devote its session to discuss, as a matter of urgency, the report of the joint committee between the State and the Shura Council regarding the articles subject to the discrepancy between the two councils on the draft of value-added tax law referred by the Council of Ministers."

In this context, Dr Ruwais Al

2015

December was the month in which the decision to introduce VAT in Oman and other Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member countries was taken by the Supreme Council of the GCC at its 36th session



Maharbi, a member of the Economic Committee of the State Council, told *Al Shabiba*, *Times of Oman's* sister Arabic publication, "The committee has reviewed the draft VAT law and cleared the articles which need review. The community would not be nega-

tively affected by the law as there are parallel programmes to mitigate any potential impacts."

He added: "The VAT law is applicable in nearly all countries, with the exception of a few, which are yet to implement this. Earlier studies have shown that

the revenue from implementation of the law would amount to OMR400 million."

"The State Council agrees with the Majlis Al Shura that certain criteria must be met before implementing the law, including the presence of the correct environ-

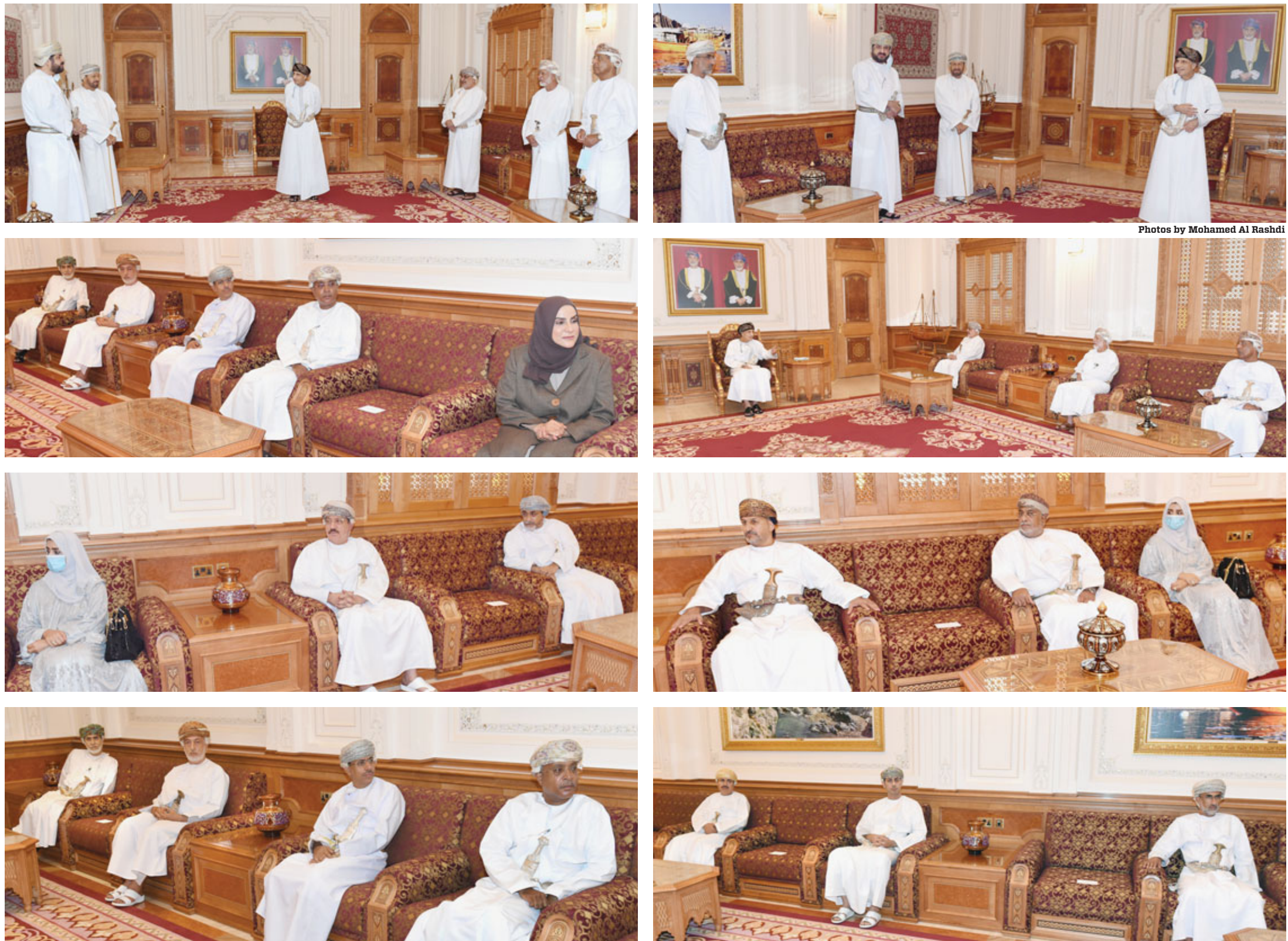
ment to put this into practice," said Al Maharbi.

The decision to bring VAT into Oman and five other Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member countries was taken by the Supreme Council of the GCC at its 36th session, which was held in December 2015.

According to the decision, all six countries are to impose a 5 per cent VAT on all imports and sales of goods and services.

The General Federation of Oman Workers and Union had earlier reaffirmed that it was following up with the parties involved with the implementation of VAT, the developments of the VAT draft law and its positive impacts, such as the generation of new revenue, the availability of more liquid cash, and the creation of new job opportunities.

Fahd meets ex-Cabinet members





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40,934 REACH



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The safety of passengers and employees is the top priority at airports across Oman.

Departures

جميع البوابات All gates

TIMESOFOMAN.COM

Passenger safety top priority ahead of airport reopening Oman



News story on passenger safety at Oman airports

A news story on passenger safety at Oman airports reached 40,934 people on Facebook with 9,543 engagements.

📺 MOST WATCHED VIDEO ON FACEBOOK

5,400 VIEWS



Maghrib Minute video in Hindi

The Maghrib Minute video in Hindi has 5,400 views on Facebook with 30,200 reach.

📺 MOST VIEWED VIDEO ON INSTAGRAM

1,296 VIEWS



Morning Minute video on land ownership

The Morning Minute video on land ownership got 62 likes and 1,296 views on Instagram.

Plans being made to start flight operations

Planes, staff and airports across the country ready to start flight services

Times News Service

MUSCAT: Airlines in Oman have announced their readiness to return to operations, once flights are given the green light to resume. Oman Air, the Sultanate's national carrier, has announced on Monday that its planes and staff across the country are ready to resume flight services. A statement issued by Oman Air said: "Our planes and people are ready and Oman's airports are ready too. When we can fly, we will provide safe, careful service to our guests, along with all travel-related information and requirements." Meanwhile, on the ground, stringent measures are laid out across Oman's airports to ensure the safety of all passengers, staff and visitors. Among the steps being taken are precautions to disinfect passenger



baggage carried or transported on board planes. Major Khaled Al Battashi of the Royal Oman Police (ROP), said in an interview on Oman Radio, "There are internal procedures in place, in keeping with the plans of the Royal Oman Police, and the health and safety protocols issued by the national Civil Aviation Authority. This plan has been circulated to all ROP departments, such as passport control, customs, and security. "It deals with the security requirements for all bags or packages passengers might have," he added. "It is also prohibited for any member of airport staff to deal with any bag unless it has first been disinfected."

Oman Air had also previously extended its call centre hours to deal with queries passengers might have ahead of the reopening, or prior to boarding any of the special flights organised by the airline. The company said in a statement, "Our dedicated call centre team is available from 6 am to 10 pm (local time) to assist you with your travel requirements."

COVID-19 case count in Oman now 85,722

MUSCAT: The total number of COVID-19 positive cases in Oman reached 85,722, while the number of recoveries stood at 80,810, comprising 94.2 per cent. The total number of COVID-19 related deaths in the Sultanate stood at 685, according to the Ministry of Health. The Ministry also pointed out that 50 patients were hospitalised over the past 24 hours. **155 patients in ICU** The total number of hospitalised COVID-19 patients stands at 404, of them 155 are in intensive care units (ICU). -ONA



NEW CONCEPT

#QuizLive a resounding success in innovative quizzing



BRAIN GAME: Quiz master Murli Pillai of LetsGetQuizzical, did not just test the participants' knowledge but also their cognitive and imaginative skills. -Supplied photo

Times News Service

MUSCAT: It was an evening to remember. Natural Born Quizzers took it to Natural Stupidity right till the end but fell short by a mere 5 points, with Natural Stupidity emerging deserved champions in the inaugural online international quiz - #Quiz Live - Play @Home with Quiz master Murli Pillai organised by Oman's leading creative, digital, branding & event management company, Nexus Novel Advertising and conducted by Oman's own quiz master Murli Pillai, this was the first time that an online quiz on a video-conferencing platform was being introduced in Oman and at the same time open to teams from all over the world. A truly international event. Split into three stages - The Prelims, The Semis and The Finals, the teams went through a written Prelims round from which the top 16 teams qualified for the semi finals - two sessions with 8 teams each. The semis were live and interactive and as the degree of difficulty kept mounting, the top four from each semi finals qualified for the Grand Finale on the 28th of August 2020. Quiz master Murli Pillai of LetsGetQuizzical, did not just test the participants' knowledge but also their cognitive and imaginative skills and most importantly the ability of the teams to react

quickly under pressure. Speed was the key factor in the ultimate analysis. And that's where Team Natural Stupidity (Jaykathan, playing solo) scored with natural ease. Natural Born Quizzers (father-son duo of Murali Ramaswamy & Abhishek Murali - ex Muscateers) were not far behind making a majestic comeback towards the end to fall short by just 5 points. Bearly Koalified (young sibling duo of Skaria and Sebastian Parakal from Muscat) were consistent from the word go and were deserving 2nd Runner-up. Special mention goes out to the schoolboy team QuizWiz (Chetan Sethu & Lael Alva from Muscat) who held their own and surely queered the pitch for Natural Born Quizzers in the final round. The event was viewed by enthusiastic audiences across the world as it was live-streamed on Facebook with lots of audience questions too. The audience was spellbound with the calibre of the quizzers and the interesting rounds set by quiz master Murli, covering a whole range of topics from Fiction to Events, from Faces to Brands, it was an all-encompassing quiz by all standards. Mr. Mobin Beg, Business Head of Nexus Novel, in a concluding observation, congratulated the teams that had won the prizes and thanked all those who had participated in the event, and expressed his gratitude to the sponsors who had patronised the event that had turned out to be a great entertainer. He also promised to conduct more such quiz shows based on different themes like Technology, Sports, Entertainment etc. Said Jaykathan of Natural Stupidity, after his victory "It was really an exciting quiz in a completely innovative format. A great event and very well organised." Murali Ramaswamy of Natural Born Quizzers, an old hand in Muscat quizzing added "It was so close, but no regrets. We had fun." Quiz master Murli Pillai summed it up at the end "The calibre was extremely high right from the Prelims. So many good teams missed out making it to the semis. The feedback from the audience watching was amazing too. And that gives us a lot of confidence going forward because my philosophy is different from conventional quizzing. The idea is to keep the questions short with a lot of visual multidisciplinary content and make the participants think beyond the obvious. That's why the quiz was not only exciting and informative but a whole load of fun too for all involved." The victorious teams won handsome cash prizes plus generous shopping vouchers from Sea Pearl, Danube and Mazoon Dairy, for their superlative efforts.



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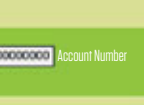
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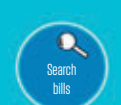
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Mahmoud Al-Zakwani

Plans and Strategies for Water Security

The Water Authority (Diam) seeks to enhance sustainability of water security by developing successful plans and strategies. Such plans and strategies have been carefully and thoroughly studied to be suitable and of long-term with a commitment to maintaining the quality of water in the Sultanate, and to make this important and vital sector a stable and safe sector.

This sector is relied on as a basic tributary and support for development in the Sultanate, because this is a large sector that directly touches, serves and targets all categories of consumers of this service, whether they are citizens or residents, and to deliver it to various villages and wilayats in the governorates of the Sultanate.

These big plans and strategies have contributed to the promotion and development of this sector. Diam is always ready to promote this sector quickly, so that everyone can have water supply in accordance with the best and highest international standards, taking into account the availability of financial resources for this sector.

Sustainability of water security is one of the most important pillars since the start of the blessed Renaissance, and it is not a spur of the moment. Nevertheless, there are challenges due to the large distance in which all these different projects are accomplished here and there. This sector is not easy, as it spans from east to west and from north to south in the Sultanate.

Diam is keen to go through steady and elaborate steps in accordance with plans and strategies to develop the sector to include all consumers in terms of the large population and urban expansion witnessed by the Sultanate.

Since we live in hot dry areas, which are considered among the areas in which drinking water resources are scarce, many countries, whether at the level of the GCC countries or those located and classified within these countries with scarcity of water, have resorted to making studies and developing alternative plans to find urgent ways and solutions to obtain sufficient quantities of potable water.

Establishing seawater desalination plants is the strategic choice to achieve water security. The most prominent of those desalination plants are the desalination plants in Sohar, Barka, Al Ghubrah, Qurayyat and Sur, in addition to the desalination plant under construction in the wilayat of Ja'alan Bani Bu Hassan and the water purification plant in the wilayat of Ibri.

In addition, construction is going on in 49 small desalination plants feeding areas far from the main networks.

MORE THAN 900 KM TO REINFORCE AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF WATER TRANSMISSION LINES DESALINATION PLANTS.... STRATEGIC GUARANTEE TO COVER WATER DEMAND

Achieving water security is based on providing sufficient desalination capacities to cover the demand through the establishment and expansion of large and small desalination plants.

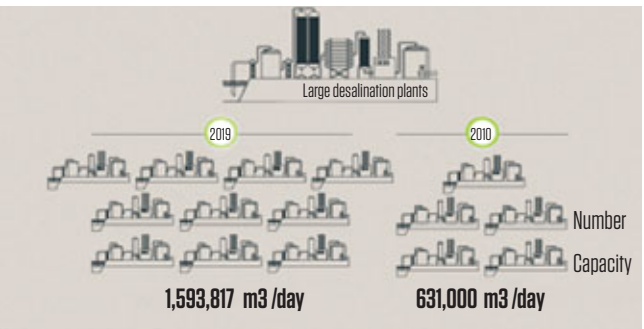
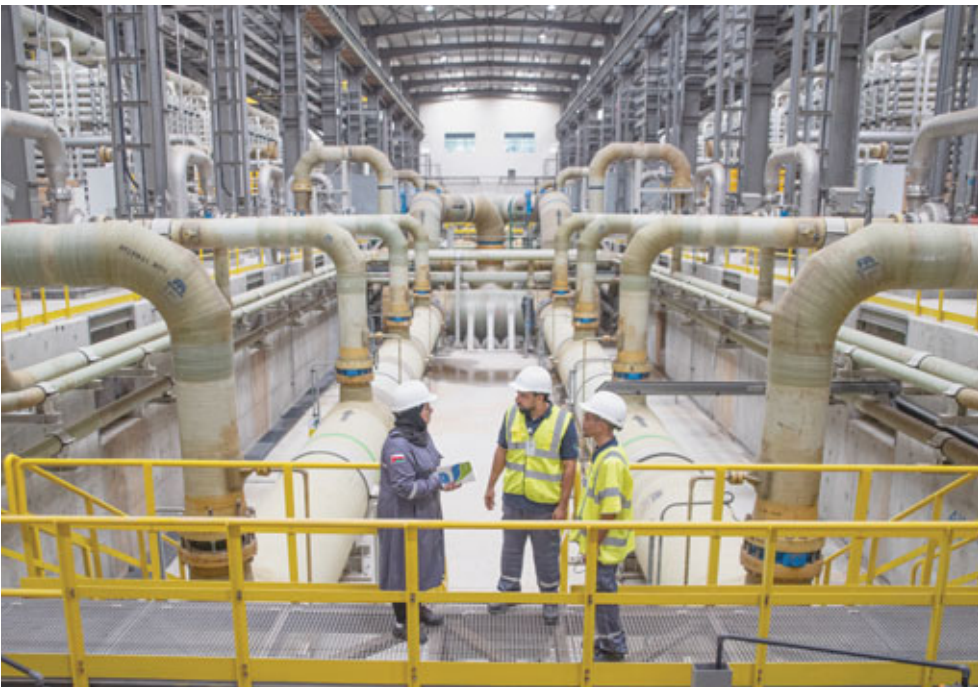
Water security in the Sultanate is one of the most important projects that receive great care and attention. The Public Authority for Water "Diam" bears the responsibility for providing safe, high-quality drinking water in conformity with international standards for all residents in its water supply areas. In its planning of projects to enhance water security, Diam relies on a master plan for the water sector that takes into account the demographic challenges represented by the steady increase in population, and the challenges related to the rapid urban growth and expansion of all residential, commercial, industrial, tourist and other activities, and to ensure that this plan is consistent with the future Oman Vision 2040 and its goals. The strategic plan on which Diam is working revolves around boosting water production from desalination plants, linking them to an integrated transportation system and expanding service provision by extending water networks to meet the increasing demand for drinking water.

On the most important strategic projects implemented by Diam to ensure water security in its water supply areas, Eng. Abdulaziz bin Said bin Hamad Al Shidhani, Director General of Planning and Asset Management and Acting Director General of Customer Services, said: "The Sultanate has adopted a clear policy based on relying on seawater desalination as a main source of providing drinking water and maintaining underground reservoirs to be a reliable strategic reserve in emergencies. Therefore, achieving water security and ensuring the continuity of supplies is based on providing sufficient desalination capacities to cover water demand through the establishment and expansion of large and small desalination plants in various regions."

Al-Shidhani added that water security can only be achieved by strengthening the water transmission systems and enhancing the interconnection between various desalination plants, in addition to enhancing water storage capacity through the establishment of main collection tanks, which greatly contributes to enhancing water security.

Desalination plants to enhance service sustainability and ensure water security

The Director General of Planning and Asset Management emphasized that desalination plants are the best strategic option to provide safe, high-quality drinking water due to the scarcity of renewable fresh water resources in the Sultanate. The current demand for water is being met mainly from the existing desalination plants with the continuation of establishing new desalination plants with different production capacities to meet the future demand for water. Among the existing desalination plants which are being relied upon in Muscat governorate is



Al Ghubra desalination plant, which has a production capacity of 191,000 cubic meters per day, and Quriyat desalination plant, with a production capacity of 200,000 cubic meters per day. In North Al Batinah Governorate there are also two plants with a production capacity of 400,000 cubic meters of water per day. In South Al Batinah Governorate there are a number of desalination plants, the total water production of which is 400,000 cubic meters per day. In South Al Sharqiyah Governorate, the desalination plant in Sur produces 131,000 cubic meters of water per day. In Al Dhahirah Governorate, the well water purification plant in Ibri produces about 40,000 cubic meters of water per day. The demand for water from these plants is met along with the desalination plants of small production capacities, the number of which is 49 plants, with a total production capacity of 40,000 cubic meters per day, feeding the areas far from the main water networks.

The current desalination plant system will include new plants which will enter service in the future, including the desalination plant in the Wilayat of Ja'alan Bani Bu Ali in South Al Sharqiyah Governorate with a production capacity of 80,000 cubic meters per day and is expected to be operational during 2021; the new desalination plant in Al Ghubrah with a production capacity of 300,000 cubic meters per day and it is planned to be operational in 2023; and a new desalination plant in North Al Batinah Governorate with a production capacity of 150,000 cubic meters and it is planned to be operational in 2025.

Water transmission and interconnection system

Eng. Abdulaziz Al-Shidhani explained that Diam pays great attention to strengthening the interconnection system linking between desalination plants spread in a number of the Sultanate's governorates by connecting them to a network of strategic transmission lines that transport large quantities of water between the plants and governorates of the Sultanate.

Al-Shidhani said that work on the water transmission line project between Bausher and Al Seeb is proceeding at an accelerated pace. "The project includes a 30 km water transmission line that reaches the main collection tanks in the Wilayat of Al Seeb (Al Khoud area). The

new line will work as a supplementary for the current water transmission line from the existing water desalination plant in the wilayat of Sur to North Al Sharqiyah Governorate. This project is relied upon to raise the capacity of the existing infrastructure and develop it to cope with the increase in the volume of water demand and raise the level of water security for these two governorates," he said.

Al Shidhani added that work on the project to strengthen the water transmission line for Al Dakhliya Governorate is underway at an accelerated pace to raise the efficiency of the water transmission system in the short term. "Now the project is in its final phases. It aims to pump larger quantities of water to the governorate by strengthening the existing pumping stations and implementing some parts of the new water line in the implementation phase of the project. The first phase of the project includes the extension of a line with a length of 14 km, while the second phase includes lines of pipelines with a total length of about 190 km, which are relied upon in developing long-term solutions represented in extending a main line auxiliary to the existing transmission line and establishing new pumping stations and water tanks. This phase aims to enhance the security of the system of water transport to the governorate in the long term," he said.

Enhancing water storage capacities

On enhancing water storage capacities, Engineer Abdulaziz Al Shidani explained that Diam has established a number of main collection tanks, with a total storage capacity of more than one million cubic meters distributed in various governorates of the Sultanate. "Diam has completed the preliminary study for the establishment of artificial underground reservoirs based on injecting water produced from all currently available sources during non-peak periods and re-using it during peak and emergency periods, which came out with promising results. Diam recently floated a tender to appoint a specialized expert house to complete the technical and economic studies that pave the way for the implementation of these tanks, which will provide new options that are more economically feasible and more effective to enhance storage capacities and reduce operational costs for Diam systems," he said.

"Work is also underway on a project to strengthen the vital water transport system between the two largest areas in which desalination plants are located: the wilayats of Barka and Sohar. The project includes extending a network of water transmission lines between Barka plants and Sohar plants with a length of 140 km. The project is expected to be completed in 2022," Al-Shidhani said.

Al Shidhani pointed out that Diam has started implementing a project to strengthen the water transmission system between Al Sharqiyah desalination plant (under construction) in the Wilayat of Ja'alan Bani Bu Ali in the South Al Sharqiyah Governorate, up to the wilayat of Al Mudhaibi in North Sharqiyah Governorate. "The project includes laying pipelines with a total length of about 310 km. It is planned to complete the implementation of the project in 2022. The





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Effort should be made to achieve Oman Vision 2040 goals: Minister



INVESTMENT-FRIENDLY CLIMATE: Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion calls for need to expedite investment-related transactions. -ONA



The Royal directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has stressed the need for streamlining procedures of government services for investors and customers

MUSCAT: A concerted effort should be made to achieve the goals of Oman Vision 2040 as envisioned by His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik, said Qais bin Mohammed Al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion.

He said that the Royal directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham Bin Tarik has stressed the need for streamlining procedures of government services for investors and customers through the prompt finalisation of their transactions in the

shortest possible time, particularly electronic services.

Merger

Speaking about the merging of Ministry of Commerce and Industry, the Public Authority for Investment Promotion (Ithraa) and the Centre for Competition Protection and Monopoly Prevention under Royal Decree No. 97/2020, the Minister said that the merger will expedite investment-related transactions and cut down the duplication of licence providers.

This, he affirmed, will establish

an investment-friendly climate in the Sultanate at a time all world countries are competing to attract investments.

Weekly meeting

Al Yousef made the statement during a weekly meeting with the Ministry's under-secretaries and directors-general aimed at rapprochement of officials' views so that all could work as one team. The aim is also to have a close look at work progress in different sections and sectors of the Ministry while at the same time streamlining procedures, improving and developing services rendered to the sectors of enterprises and investments.

Al Yousef pointed out that the Ministry accords attention to all directorates and administrations across the Sultanate's governorates and to help them shoulder their responsibilities in activating the economy, business and investment. -ONA



KERALITES IN OMAN CELEBRATE ONAM

Expatriates from the south Indian state of Kerala living in the Sultanate celebrated Onam, the harvest festival, on Monday. The festival portrays the rich tradition and diverse culture of Kerala and is celebrated during the end of August or beginning of September. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, however, the celebrations this year was subdued not only here in Oman but also in Kerala. - K Parusothaman

FIGHTING COVID-19



Health Minister visits Nizwa and Ibra hospitals

MUSCAT: Dr Ahmed bin Mohammad Al Saidi, Minister of Health, visited Nizwa Hospital in the Governorate of Al Dakhiliyah and Ibra Hospital in the Governorate of North Al Sharqiah on Monday.

The visit was to follow up efforts of the hospitals' medical and allied medical staff involved in combating COVID-19, in addition to the therapeutic and preventive services provided for the patients and visitors.

Dr Al Saidi reviewed the two hospitals workflow and met with the administrators and health workers in addition to the Governorates Health Services' officials where he commended their efforts in fighting COVID-19 and briefed them on the pandemic.

Meanwhile, the Minister received their opinions on how to improve the quality of the delivered services, urging all staff to exert their effort while providing health services. - ONA

SALAMAIR

Special flight to be operated from Salalah to Muscat

Times News Service

MUSCAT: A special flight from Salalah to Muscat will be operated today, SalamAir announced.

A statement issued online by SalamAir said, "SalamAir will

operate a special flight from Salalah to Muscat on 1st September 2020."

"For booking, please visit our website salamair.com or call 24272222," the statement further added.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC

<FROM A1 Real estate, tourism and aviation sectors severely hit

The authors noted that two more sectors had been only somewhat affected by the pandemic, and had shown a resilience to its impact to continue functioning to the best of their capabilities during these uncertain and unpredictable times.

Magd explained, "Proactive measures of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in the form of adopting new projects increased fish farming from 33 tonnes in 2016 to 192 tonnes at the end of 2019. Thus, Oman stood as one of the largest fish producers in the Gulf region with a capture of 580,000 fish in 2019. Despite its strength, COVID-19 is expected to disrupt this market in the form of lack of buyers due to closure of the retail market."

"COVID-19 has less impact on cement manufacturing in Oman as the Omani cement manufacturers braced to encounter this difficult situation," revealed Thumiki. "Omani cement manufacturers are self-sufficient in raw materials.

As global supply chains are affected, the movement of raw materials within the country has not been disrupted due to COVID-19."

The authors added that Omani cement manufacturers had used innovative low-cost and eco-friendly strategies to fight this difficult situation, providing the example of manufacturers converting used tyres into fuel used in cement production, which also went a long way towards sustainable waste management.

Medical manufacturing companies in the country have benefited from manufacturing much-needed equipment during times like these, with some resorting to 3D printing technology."

However, three sectors in the country - real estate, tourism and aviation - have faced a far greater brunt of the pandemic.

The oil crisis

"Even before COVID-19, the oil crisis had impacted the real estate



Dr Venkat Ram Raj Thumiki.

sector due to which property deals sharply fell by over 10 percent by the end of September 2019," recalled Magd.

"Despite this, the situation took a turn for the better from the beginning of 2020. Wherein, the first two months of total value of property transactions increased by 24 percent compared to the same



Dr Hesham Magd.

period in 2019. "Then, the introduction of COVID-19 worsened the situation as property deals and real estate transactions have been affected due to the restriction on the movement of people," he added.

"The real estate sector also suffered in terms of rent collection, as the tenants were unable to pay

due to jobs being affected by COVID-19."

Shedding light on how the aviation sector in the country had suffered because of the novel coronavirus, Thumiki revealed, "COVID-19 has severely affected the aviation sector. According to an estimate, in Oman, the flight disruptions could result in a two million loss in passenger volume. It has become imperative to pursue the recovery plan to resume flights in the Sultanate."

The authors pointed out that the country's aviation sector had grown threefold between 2010 and 2019, with airports being a major contributor to national revenue. More than 100,000 flights operated last year, serving upward of 16 million passengers.

With flights suspended and people told to stay at home to avoid spreading infection, revenue from tourism sharply declined because of the virus.

The authors explained in some

detail the impact on the various tourism offerings. Some 284 cruise ships were expected to visit the country during the 2019-2020 season, but many of them have now been anchored, while there have been few visitors to tourists hotspots such as the Khareef Festival, as well as the mountainous areas of Jabal Akhdar and Jabal Shams.

Explaining how Oman's MICE (meetings, incentives, conferences and events) sector had suffered, Thumiki said, "Like many other nations across the world, the tourism sector in Oman has been suffering severely as movement is restricted due to COVID-19. Yet, this sector has also suffered the negative effects of COVID-19. The Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre, which was expected to host an average of 30 events per year, has cancelled all activities and events planned between March and July 2020 until further notice."

WORLD

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'TOWERING STATESMAN'

Former Indian president Pranab Mukherjee passes away

NEW DELHI: Former president of India, Pranab Mukherjee passed away at the Army Hospital in Delhi, on Monday.

His son Abhijit Banerjee announced his father's death in a tweet. "With a Heavy Heart, this is to inform you that my father Shri #PranabMukherjee has just passed away in spite of the best efforts of Doctors of RR Hospital & prayers, duas & prarthanas from

people throughout India! I thank all of you."

Condolences poured in after the announcement of his demise. India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a tweet, said, "India grieves the passing away of Bharat Ratna Shri Pranab Mukherjee. He has left an indelible mark on the development trajectory of our nation. A scholar par excellence, a towering states-

man, he was admired across the political spectrum and by all sections of society."

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi tweeted, "With great sadness, the nation receives the news of the unfortunate demise of our former President Shri Pranab Mukherjee. I join the country in paying homage to him. My deepest condolences to the bereaved family and friends."

Times

OF OMAN

Printed and published by:
Muscat Media Group
Post Box: 770,
Postal Code: 112

Founder: Essa bin Mohammed Al Zedjali
Chairman / Editor-in-Chief: Mohamed Issa Al Zadjali
Deputy Editor-in-Chief: Anees bin Essa Al Zedjali
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EDITORIAL: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24813153, E-mail: editor@timesofoman.com
ADVERTISING: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24812624, E-mail: advertising@timesofoman.com
CIRCULATION: Telephone: 24726666, Fax: 24818270, E-mail: circulation@timesofoman.com

COVID-19 cases rise in Asia-Pacific as India's tally surpasses 3.6 million

As many as 78,512 new cases and 971 deaths were recorded over the past 24 hours across India

HONG KONG: Asia-Pacific countries are still facing a growing pandemic of the COVID-19 as India reported over 70,000 daily cases for five consecutive days.

India's tally rose to 3,621,245, as the death toll rose to 64,469, showed the latest data released by the health ministry.

As many as 78,512 new cases and 971 deaths were recorded over the past 24 hours across the country. India will enter the Unlock 4 with effect from Tuesday. Fresh guidelines to be followed during Unlock 4 were issued on Saturday.

According to the new guidelines announced, schools will remain shut through September, though students of 9-12 grades have been allowed to approach their teachers at schools for guidance.

Metro Rail services would be allowed to start from September 7 in a phased manner, and public functions, or other congregations, would be allowed with a ceiling of 100 persons from September 21.

The number of confirmed cases in the Philippines surged

CORONAVIRUS: Asia-Pacific countries are still facing rising COVID-19 cases despite measures to contain it.

to 220,819 after the country's Department of Health (DoH) reported 3,446 new daily cases on Monday.

The DoH said that the number of recoveries surged to 157,562 after it reported 165 more patients have survived the disease.

The DoH added that 38 more patients have died from the disease, bringing the death toll to 3,558.

Five regions or provinces remain among the worst-hit places in the whole country, with Metro Manila at the top with daily confirmed cases reported on Monday

at 1,900. Indonesia reported 2,743 new cases, bringing the total number of the cases in the country to 174,796, with the death toll adding by 74 to 7,417, the country's health ministry said on Monday.

According to the ministry, 1,774 more people were discharged

from hospitals, bringing the total number of recovered patients to 125,959.

Bangladesh reported more than 2,100 new COVID-19 cases and 33 new deaths on Monday, making the tally at nearly 313,000 and total deaths at 4,281, the Directo-

rate General of Health Services (DGHS) said.

According to the figure reported by the DGHS under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the country reached 312,996 including 2,174 new cases on Monday.

South Korea reported 248 more cases as of 12:00 a.m. Monday local time compared to 24 hours ago, raising the total number of infections to 19,947.

The number of confirmed cases for the past 18 days reached 5,177 owing to infections in Seoul and its surrounding Gyeonggi province.

The infections were traceable to church services of Sarang Jeil Church in Seoul and the massive rally held in central Seoul on Aug. 15 by conservative politicians, civic groups and church members.

Of the new cases, 91 were Seoul residents and 79 were people residing in Gyeonggi province.

Ten were imported, lifting the combined figure to 2,823. One more death was confirmed, leaving the death toll at 324. The total fatality rate stood at 1.63 percent.

Myanmar reported 12 more locally transmitted COVID-19 cases on Monday morning, bringing the number of infections to 787 in total, according to a statement from the Ministry of Health and Sports.

According to the ministry, 11 newly confirmed cases are from Rakhine state while the other one is from Yangon region.

Myanmar has detected new local transmission again on Aug. 16 since its local case was lastly reported on July. 16. [xinhua](#)

TREMENDOUS DAMAGE

TRAGIC: Around 190 people were killed and thousands were injured when explosive material stored at Beirut's port detonated on August 4.

Beirut port's explosions caused up to \$4.6 bn in damage: World Bank

BEIRUT: The World Bank estimates the value of physical damage caused by the explosions that rocked Beirut's port on August 4 at between 3.8 billion U.S. dollars and 4.6 billion dollars.

"The country will need international aid and private investment to recover," according to an initial assessment led by the World Bank, in cooperation with the United Nations and the European Union in Lebanon.

Around 190 people were killed and thousands were injured when

explosive material stored at Beirut's port detonated on August 4, destroying thousands of buildings in the city.

In addition to the damage caused to homes, hospitals, schools, and streets, the explosions forced many businesses to close, contributing to a loss of economic activity estimated at between 2.9 billion dollars and 3.5 billion dollars.

The World Bank noted that housing, transport and cultural assets are among the sectors

worst affected.

"The disaster will not only exacerbate the contraction in economic activity, but also worsen poverty rates, which were already at 45 percent of the population just prior to the explosion," the World Bank said on Monday.

It added that the "implementation of a credible reform agenda will be key to accessing international development assistance and unlock external and private sector sources of financing." [xinhua](#)

UNITED STATES

Man killed after Donald Trump's supporters and opponents clash in Portland

WASHINGTON: Portland police put out a call for witnesses on Sunday following a fatal shooting that took place in the aftermath of clashes between supporters and opponents of United States President Donald Trump.

Authorities called on the public to send videos or photos of the incident and for any eyewitnesses to come forward.

They have not yet released details about the identity of the man who was killed or information on the shooter.

"It is still early in this investigation, and I ask everyone to give the detectives time to do their important work before drawing conclusions about what took place," Police Chief Chuck Lovell said, adding that the violence was "completely unacceptable."

Reporters on the scene said the deceased man was wearing a hat bearing the insignia of the far-right group Patriot Prayer — a group that has clashed with Black Lives Matter protesters in Portland in recent weeks.

Victim shot after rally

The shooting erupted on Saturday evening around 15 minutes after a pro-Trump caravan with around 600 vehicles left downtown, police said in a statement.

The victim sustained a gunshot wound to the chest and did not survive.

Police have not said whether the killing was tied to the protests.

Around 2,500 Trump support-

ers took part in the rally which clogged up roads and saw clashes with left-wing groups in the city.

Portland and other US cities have seen weeks of protests against systemic racism and police brutality. The demonstrations were sparked by the death of George Floyd, a Black man who died after a police officer knelt on his neck for nearly nine minutes. [npr](#)

PARLIAMENTARY SESSION

Japan to pick new PM on September 17

TOKYO: Japan is considering to hold an extraordinary parliamentary session on September 17 to pick the country's new prime minister to succeed Shinzo Abe, local media reported on Sunday.

According to public broadcaster NHK, the ruling Liberal Democratic Party is expected to decide when and how to choose its next

leader in a General Council meeting on Tuesday.

Meanwhile, LDP top officials are making final arrangements to have its members in both houses of the Diet meet around Sept. 13-15 to choose the party's president. Then, the party plans to call an extraordinary parliamentary session to elect the new prime minister on

Sept. 17, according to the report.

Currently, LDP Policy Research Council Chairperson Fumio Kishida, and former LDP Secretary-General Shigeru Ishiba have shown interest in running in the party's presidential race. Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga is also seen as a potential candidate. [xinhua](#)



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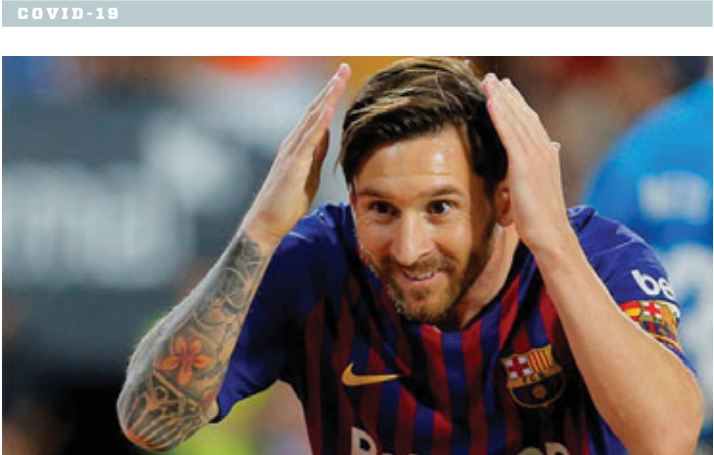
SPORTS



ALI AL HABSİ HONOURED

Sheikh Ali bin Ahmed Al Shamsi, Governor of North Al Sharqiyah, honoured yesterday Ali Al Habsi, former goalkeeper of national football team on his retirement from the game. Sheikh Al Shamsi thanked Al Habsi and hailed his efforts and achievements at the national level and for the various sports clubs he played for. Sheikh Al Shamsi reaffirmed that the Governorate is keen to honour the talent and youth at all levels. —**ONA**





Speculations come true, Lionel Messi skips PCR test

MADRID: Leo Messi on Sunday failed to attend the PCR tests for the COVID-19 at the Barcelona training ground where was cited to appear with the rest of his teammates.

Messi's non-appearance confirmed the stories in the Spanish press that the striker would not take the tests, which are obligatory before Barca's return to training on Monday.

The 33-year-old will not be able to start training until he takes the test, and Sunday's non-appearance is another sign of his determination to abandon the club he joined as a 13-year-old.

Messi's decision could see the saga, that began on Tuesday when he informed Barca of his wish to leave, take a bitter turn as it could open the door to the club taking disciplinary action against him for breaking its disciplinary code.

It could also have a secondary effect as so far a large section of supporters have shown sympathy with Messi in his conflict with the club (and especially the unpopular Barca President Josep Maria Bartomeu), however his failure to train could turn some of those fans against him. —**Xinhua**

England look to extend lead over Pakistan

Pakistan will look to find ways to counter the potent England batting order in a bid to level the series

MANCHESTER: England have won each of their last five T20I series – including one-offs – and, after winning the previous match against Pakistan, they have a chance to continue that run. It's been over two years since England lost a T20I series and they appear primed to add to their winning streak.

With the first match having been washed out, Pakistan, the current No 4-ranked side in the MRF Tyres ICC T20I Team Rankings, will look to find ways to counter the potent England batting



VARIATIONS: Pakistan may consider bringing in Wahab Riaz, whose experience and ability to bowl pace variations, might come in handy.

order in a bid to level the series.

They may consider bringing in Wahab Riaz, whose experience and ability to bowl pace variations, might come in handy. If they decided to give Shaheen Afridi, who has played each game on the tour so far, a rest, the 20-year-old Mohammad Hasnain might also be an option to consider.

England's bowling was unable

to make a breakthrough early in Pakistan's innings in the second T20I, and David Willey, with his ability to swing the new ball, might be in the reckoning for the third T20I.

Remember the last time

After a steady fifty from skipper Babar Azam at the top of the order, Mohammad Hafeez took the attack

to the England bowlers, smashing a 36-ball 69, to power Pakistan to a seemingly imposing 195/4.

Jonny Bairstow and Tom Banton made a blazing start to the chase scoring at over 10 an over when both men were dismissed off successive deliveries in the seventh over by Shadab Khan with the score on 66. But the twin breakthrough provided little respite as Dawid Malan and captain Eoin Morgan wreaked havoc.

Morgan was particularly destructive, smashing six fours and four sixes in his 33-ball 66, which helped England ease past the line with five balls to spare. Eoin Morgan (England captain) said: "The last two years in international cricket are my best numbers to date. That's great because if I can combine a little of that [form] with my experience, I think that will go a long way to winning games."

Babar Azam (Pakistan captain) said: "We stuck to our plans while batting, but we couldn't bowl well. Credit to Malan and Morgan for the way they played." —**ICC**

JAPAN OLYMPICS

Tokyo Olympic flame on display

TOKYO: The Tokyo Olympic flame, which had been kept in a secret place since the Games was postponed, has been put on display at the Japan Olympic Museum on Monday.

A simple ceremony was held by Tokyo 2020 organizers and the Japanese Olympic Committee (JOC) to mark the opening of the public display, which will run from September 1 to November 1.

Tokyo 2020 President Yoshiro Mori was confident that the torch relay and the Games will take place despite concern over a second wave of COVID-19 across the country. "The flame will be carried in turns by about 10,000 torchbearers next year; we will use it to ignite the cauldron at the Opening Ceremony and ensure the Tokyo 2020 Games are a great success. We will continue to work closely with all concerned parties to prepare for a safe and secure Games."

The Tokyo Metropolitan Government said it confirmed 100 new cases of coronavirus on Monday, which means that the daily tally in the Japanese capital exceeded 100 for seven straight days. —**Xinhua**



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Oman Marketing and Services Company LLC wishes to inform all customers that a number of "PANASONIC", "BLACK & DECKER", "X-PER", "BOMPANI", "GENERAL ELECTRIC", "USHA", "ACSON", "X-BOX", "AFTRON", "SKM" & "YAMAHA" sets sent for repairs/repair estimates to our Service Centres at Boushar, Sur, Sohar, Nizwa and Salalah before 31/12/2019 have not yet been collected.

Customers are hereby informed that all such sets must be collected within one month from the date of this Announcement on submission of the Official Repair Slip.

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MOTORSPORT

Lewis Hamilton wins Belgian Grand Prix as Ferrari miss the points

BELGIUM: Lewis Hamilton's fifth win in the last seven races extended his championship lead over Max Verstappen to 47 points with just 10 of this season's 17 races remaining.

Hamilton's Mercedes teammate Valtteri Bottas came in 8.4 seconds behind him but ahead of Red Bull's Max Verstappen, meaning the Finn cut the gap to second place in the standings after Sunday's Belgian Grand Prix.

Daniel Ricciardo, who took the extra point for fastest lap, finished fourth ahead of team mate Esteban Ocon who snatched fifth from Red Bull's Alexander



Albon on the final lap.

But it was another low point for Ferrari. The Italian team has won in Belgium for the last two years but Sebastian Vettel and Charles Leclerc failed to muster a point between them, finishing 13th and 14th respectively. Ferrari are yet to win a race this season.

89th career win

Sunday's victory was Hamilton's 89th career win, meaning he moves to within two wins of Michael Schumacher's Formula One record and takes another step closer to equalling the German driver's record of seven career titles.

But the 35-year-old said it wasn't as simple as it looked. "It wasn't the easiest of races. The tire temperatures were slowly dropping. It was a bit of a struggle."

Hamilton was also keen to praise his team, who look set for another constructor's title. "No matter how much success we have we keep our heads down. It's an incredible mentality to work around."

Most of Sunday's drama came earlier on though, after a serious crash involving Alfa Romeo's Antonio Giovinazzi and Williams' George Russell. Both managed to emerge unscathed. —**AP**



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87,000
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80,000
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273,000
Al Shabiba



266,000
Followers on Instagram

66,000
Times of oman

200,000
Al Shabiba



116,203
Electronic direct mailers



240,486
APP downloads

117,335
Whatsnews

123,151
Whatsuloom



Data Sources Readership: IPSOS NRS 2017, Web reach:
Effective Measure/Narrative, Google Analytics January 2020;
Social media numbers verified online as of January 2020;
*Whatsapp subscribers x 4 pass-on rate

OMAN CRUDE PRICE RISES

The price of Oman oil has increased, with prices for delivery by October 2020 reaching \$45.74, said Dubai Mercantile Exchange (DME). The DME statement said that the price of Oman oil rose \$1.28 from the price of Friday, which was \$44.46. - **ONA**

MARKET

BUSINESS & FINANCE



MSM INDEX ENDS HIGHER

The MSM index closed at 3,771.89 points, up 0.54 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.09 per cent at 524.78. Oman Oil Marketing, up 5.26 per cent was the top gainer while ACWA Power, down 19.8 per cent, was the top loser.

Pact inked to facilitate fish export and import through Port of Duqm

Omani fish is exported to about 57 countries around the world, topped by East Asian countries at 41 per cent, followed by the GCC countries at 35 per cent



MUSCAT: The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources (MAFWR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Port of Duqm Company (PDC) to approve and facilitate fish exports and imports through the commercial port of Duqm in the Governorate of Al-Wusta.

The MoU was signed by Eng. Yaqoob bin Khalfan Al Busaidi, MAFWR Undersecretary for Fisheries and Reggy Vermeulen, CEO of PDC.

This memorandum shall enter into force on the effective date specified in the memorandum and for an extendable period of two years.

It is noteworthy that the Sultanate exported 205,000 tonnes

of fish in 2019, with a total value of OMR104 million. The fish exports accounted for 35 per cent of the total fish production of the Sultanate in 2019.

Omani fish is exported to about 57 countries around the world, topped by East Asian countries at 41 per cent, followed by the GCC countries at 35 per cent. The sardines constituted the largest proportion of fish exports with about 52 per cent. Meanwhile, the Sultanate imported more than 35,000 tonnes.

During the last two years, the demand for small pelagic fish, especially the sardines, increased by companies and factories specialised in the production of fish oil and powder. - **ONA**



AGREEMENT: The MoU was signed by Eng. Yaqoob bin Khalfan Al Busaidi, MAFWR Undersecretary for Fisheries and Reggy Vermeulen, CEO of Port of Duqm Company. - **ONA**

CYBERTHREAT

Bolstering cybersecurity capabilities during COVID-19 and beyond

DUBAI: While the COVID-19 pandemic hit its peak, businesses across the globe had to make drastic changes to survive. Owing to difficulties in arranging personal meetings and the inability to work with physical documents, most organisations adopted technological innovations and went digital.

Not only did the pandemic force most companies to embrace the new digital era, but approximately 70 per cent of the companies rolled out work-from-home (WFH) for their employees. This included increasing network connectivity to allow more people to connect simultaneously, shifting select workloads to the cloud to make access easier and faster, adopting new collaboration and productivity solutions like Zoom and Slack, and deploying devices like laptops along with peripherals.

Unfortunately, while companies scrambled to keep their workers productive, there was a significant rise in cybercrime.

Even before the COVID-19 pandemic, few organisations had mature cybersecurity capabilities that could meet the mounting challenges posed by attackers. Research by Bain & Company in the fourth quarter of 2019 found that executives at many companies overestimate the effectiveness of their cybersecurity and lack the strategic capabilities essential for a robust posture. Instead of increasing cybersecurity, over 40 per cent of large enterprises made moderate to significant reductions in IT budgets, and about 20 per cent cut their security spending.

This made it easier for malicious entities to launch attacks with a greater frequency and intensity on remote employees and other corporate assets. Security teams have seen more attempts at intellectual property theft, particularly since late January 2020. APT41, a prominent cyber threat group, reportedly targeted companies across industries in the US, UK, Canada and parts of the European Union and the Middle East using recently disclosed vulnerabilities in major vendor systems. This was one of



CYBERCRIME: The pandemic has created more remote workers and, as a result, more attackers who seek to take advantage of that. - Photo used for illustrative purpose only.

the broadest campaigns in recent years, and its aim was long-term espionage and surveillance.

With the digital ecosystem expanding almost daily, it is essential to protect customer information, intellectual property, sensitive communications and other data generated online. Organisations should take two sets of actions against cybercrime, the first to neutralise the threats to all companies that have adopted digital technology and the second to position them for the evolution of how work gets done after the pandemic.

A multi-disciplinary task force is the most effective way to tackle WFH threats and improve resilience during the pandemic. The chief security officer should lead this effort, along with informed leaders with decision-making authority from various parts of the business, IT and cybersecurity, as well as audit, risk, compliance functions, legal and HR.

The task force should begin by characterising groups of remote workers and partners based on their business role and level of access. All groups should be covered by a common set of modern security

technologies and processes. However, high-risk groups, like the top leadership who perform mission-critical functions or employees that have the deepest system access such as DevOps teams, system administrators and application developers, need a robust complement of security.

Additionally, to avoid hacks, companies must also consider revising software and hardware technology standards, such as minimum specifications for employee-owned laptops, and lists of approved USB, HDMI and Bluetooth peripherals for remote workers. Strong cybersecurity involves much more than implementing technology.

Companies should perform ongoing activities like adjusting technology standards and offering security-awareness training that helps maintain a security baseline for remote work. Finally, companies must also reevaluate the full complement of security capabilities as they permanently adjust operating models for the post-pandemic world.

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most ambitious change-makers define the future. Across 59 offices in 37 countries, we work alongside our clients as one team with a shared ambition to achieve extraordinary results, outperform the competition and redefine industries. It complements its tailored, integrated expertise with a vibrant ecosystem of digital innovators to deliver better, faster and more enduring outcomes. Its 10-year commitment to invest over \$1 billion in pro bono services brings our talent, expertise and insight to organisations tackling today's urgent challenges in education, racial equity and social justice, economic development and the environment. Since its founding in 1973, Bain & Company has measured its success by the success of its clients. Bain & Company maintains the highest level of client advocacy in the industry, and its clients have outperformed the stock market.

The article is by Gregory Garnier, Partner at Bain & Company - Middle East and Syed Ali, Expert Partner at Bain & Company Houston, United States.

VIDEO CONFERENCE



ECONOMIC RESILIENCE: The ministers exchanged views on efforts to maintain supply chains and market stability, and strengthen the post-epidemic economic resilience of the EAS region. - **Xinhua**

COVID-19: Ministers at East Asia Summit call to boost cooperation, economic growth

HANOI: Economic ministers have stressed the importance of further strengthening regional economic cooperation and accelerating post-COVID economic growth at the eighth East Asia Summit (EAS) ministerial meeting.

The meeting was held via video conference and attended by economic ministers from the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), China, Japan, South Korea, India, Australia, New Zealand, Russia and the United States.

The ministers exchanged views on efforts to maintain supply chains and market stability, and strengthen the post-epidemic economic resilience of the EAS region, calling for initiatives that will "expedite a sustainable economic recovery and resilience," according to a joint media statement of the meeting.

They discussed enhancing the application and utilisation of digital

technologies in the region to facilitate the digital economy, affirming that it is "especially important during the COVID-19 pandemic," according to the statement.

Resolving to take actions to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic's economic impacts, the ministers underscored the importance of strengthening regional supply chains to make them resilient to shocks and advance sustainable economic growth, the statement said.

They reaffirmed their commitment to promote trade and investment, minimise disruptions to trade and global supply chains, and facilitate supply chain connectivity, it said.

The ministers also reiterated their support for the necessary reform of the WTO, saying they will continue to work together to realise a free, fair, transparent, non-discriminatory, predictable, and stable trade environment, according to the statement. - **Xinhua**

MARKET

MSM index ends higher

The top gainer was Oman Oil Marketing which closed higher by 5.26% while top loser was ACWA Power which closed lower by 19.8%

MUSCAT: The MSM index closed at 3,771.89 points, up 0.54 per cent from the previous close. The Sharia Index ended up by 0.09 per cent at 524.78. Oman Oil Marketing, up 5.26 per cent was the top gainer while ACWA Power, down 19.8 per cent, was the top loser. HSBC was active in terms of the number of shares traded and Bank Muscat was the most active in terms of turnover. A total number of 620 trades were executed during the day's trading session, generating a turnover of OMR3.0 million, with more than 14.4 million shares changing hands. Out of 46 traded stocks, 17 advanced, 8 declined and 21 remained unchanged. At the session close, local investors were net sellers for OMR143,000 while GCC & Arab were net buyers for OMR74,000 followed by foreign for OMR70,000 worth of shares. Financial Index closed by 0.73 per cent at 6,125.98 points. HSBC

Oman, Sohar International Bank, United Finance, Oman United and Al Omaniya Financial were up by 3.16 per cent, 1.90 per cent, 1.59 per cent, 1.54 per cent and 1.28 per cent respectively. Al Madina Investment and National Bank of Oman were down by 4.00 per cent and 0.56 per cent respectively. Industrial Index closed at 4,000 points, up 0.15 per cent. Al Maha Ceramics, Oman Cement, Al Anwar Ceramic, Al Jazzera Steel and Gulf International were up by 2.46 per cent, 1.75 per cent, 1.3 per cent, 1.04 per cent and 0.9 per cent respectively. Dhofar Cattle Feed and Raysut Cement were down by 10.00 per cent and 0.63 per cent respectively. Services index was up 0.30 per cent before closing at 1,579.00 points. Oman Oil, Al Maha, Petroleum, Al Batinah Power and Omantel were up by 5.88 per cent, 3.45 per cent, 1.85 per cent and 0.65 per cent respectively. — United Securities

MUSCAT SECURITIES MARKET

OMAN STOCKS

INDICES

Index	High	Low	Value	Prev. Value	Diff.	Diff%
MSM30 Index	3,782.36	3,751.52	3,771.89	3,751.52	20.37	0.54
Financial Index	6,150.98	6,088.46	6,125.98	6,081.83	44.15	0.73
Industrial Index	4,009.65	3,986.43	4,000.63	3,994.57	6.06	0.15
Services Index	1,580.64	1,574.23	1,579.00	1,574.23	4.77	0.30
MSM SHARIAH INDEX	525.52	524.78	524.78	524.29	0.49	0.09
MSM TOTAL RETURN	4,306.10	4,270.98	4,294.17	4,270.98	23.19	0.54

Trading Summary

Volume	Turnover	Trades	Market Cap	Up	Down	Equal	Sec. Traded
14,413,591	3,093,967	620	19,827,862,498	17	8	21	46

SHARE PRICE BULLETIN FOR MONDAY, AUGUST 31

SECURITY NAME	VOLUME	TURNOVER	TRADES	OPEN PRICE	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE PR.	PREV. CLOSE	DIFF (RD)	DIFF %	LAST PD	LAST BD	LAST OFFER	PDA VALUE	MARKET CAP
REGULAR MARKET															
OM0000005005 ALMAHA CERAMICS	24,000	4,992	5	0.208	0.208	0.208	0.208	0.203	0.005	2.463	0.208	0.205	0.209	0.100	11,440.00
OM0000003398 SOHAR INTERNATIONAL BANK	110,000	11,770	2	0.107	0.107	0.107	0.107	0.105	0.002	1.905	0.107	0.105	0.107	0.100	280,492,221
OM0000001087 OMAN UNITED INSURANCE	50,001	19,820	12	0.396	0.398	0.386	0.396	0.390	0.006	1.538	0.396	0.386	0.396	0.100	39,600,000
OM00000001749 OMAN CEMENT	48,181	11,164	10	0.231	0.234	0.229	0.232	0.229	0.003	1.310	0.229	0.229	0.232	0.100	76,762,469
OM00000000777 AL OMANIYA FINANCIAL SER	20,100	1,588	2	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.078	0.001	1.282	0.079	0.079	0.080	0.100	23,062,879
OM00000002176 AL JAZEERA STEEL PRODUCTS	444,100	43,009	14	0.097	0.097	0.096	0.097	0.096	0.001	1.942	0.096	0.095	0.096	0.100	12,115,102
OM00000003026 OMAN TELECOMMUNICATION	786,295	488,491	56	0.616	0.628	0.616	0.620	0.616	0.004	0.649	0.628	0.620	0.628	0.100	465,000,000
OM00000002796 BANK MUSCAT	2,484,995	992,781	66	0.398	0.400	0.398	0.400	0.398	0.002	0.503	0.398	0.396	0.400	0.100	1,299,809,016
OM00000001160 NATIONAL GAS	21,342	3,563	4	0.167	0.167	0.166	0.167	0.167	0.000	0.000	0.167	0.166	0.168	0.100	14,195,000
OM00000001535 OMAN INVESTMENT AND FINANCE	1,975,787	190,574	89	0.097	0.097	0.095	0.096	0.096	0.000	0.000	0.096	0.096	0.097	0.100	19,200,000
OM00000001533 OMINVEST	19,335	6,469	2	0.338	0.338	0.334	0.334	0.334	0.000	0.000	0.334	0.334	0.340	0.100	269,795,958
OM00000001590 MUSCAT FINANCE	346,745	18,031	22	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.000	0.000	0.052	0.051	0.053	0.100	15,971,609
OM00000001772 AL ANWAR HOLDING	51,000	3,619	6	0.071	0.071	0.070	0.071	0.071	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.070	0.072	0.100	14,200,000
OM00000002440 AL SHARQIA INVESTMENT HOLDING	623,400	44,405	18	0.071	0.072	0.070	0.071	0.071	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.070	0.071	0.100	6,390,000
OM00000003224 RENAISSANCE SERVICES	2,800	980	1	0.350	0.350	0.350	0.350	0.350	0.000	0.000	0.350	0.342	0.350	0.100	82,743,500
OM00000003968 OOREDOO	195,915	78,155	40	0.404	0.406	0.398	0.398	0.398	0.000	0.000	0.398	0.396	0.398	0.100	259,075,804
OM00000001418 RAYSUT CEMENT	166,000	52,550	31	0.304	0.304	0.304	0.316	0.320	-0.004	-1.250	0.306	0.306	0.322	0.100	63,200,000
Total	17	7,369,966	1,971,960	380											

Parallel Market

OM00000002572 OMAN OIL MARKETING	10,000	6,476	2	0.644	0.648	0.644	0.648	0.612	0.036	5.882	0.648	0.636	0.648	0.100	39,706,200
OM00000003000 ALMAHA PETROLEUM PRODUCTS MAR	13,000	7,760	3	0.596	0.600	0.596	0.596	0.576	0.020	3.472	0.600	0.580	0.632	0.100	41,124,000
OM00000002374 UNITED FINANCE	33,037	2,138	7	0.063	0.065	0.063	0.065	0.063	0.002	3.175	0.065	0.063	0.065	0.100	22,694,387
OM00000001517 HSBC BANK OMAN	3,290,383	315,721	51	0.095	0.098	0.095	0.098	0.095	0.003	3.158	0.098	0.098	0.099	0.100	196,030,653
OM00000004925 AL BATINAH POWER	156,157	8,589	15	0.055	0.056	0.055	0.055	0.054	0.001	1.852	0.055	0.054	0.055	0.100	37,118,809
OM00000002168 AL ANWAR CERAMIC TILES	67,000	10,457	7	0.154	0.157	0.154	0.156	0.154	0.002	1.299	0.156	0.155	0.157	0.100	46,208,334
OM00000002028 GULF INTERNATIONAL CHEMICALS	6,000	630	1	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.000	0.000	0.105	0.105	0.105	0.100	14,160,000
OM00000002649 BANK DHOFAR	940,000	104,380	19	0.115	0.115	0.111	0.111	0.110	0.001	0.909	0.111	0.111	0.114	0.100	332,595,009
OM00000001111 GULF HOTELS (OMAN)	50,784	380,880	1	7.500	7.500	7.500	3.880	3.880	0.000	0.000	7.500	3.880	0.000	1.000	13,301,889
OM00000001152 OMAN NATIONAL ENGINE INVT.	10,000	1,180	1	0.118	0.118	0.118	0.118	0.118	0.000	0.000	0.118	0.118	0.119	0.100	14,160,000
OM00000001178 MUSCAT GASES	4,438	958	1	0.215	0.215	0.215	0.212	0.212	0.000	0.000	0.215	0.215	0.220	0.100	6,360,000
OM00000001681 OMAN AND EMIRATES INV HOLDING	334,680	16,066	16	0.048	0.049	0.048	0.048	0.048	0.000	0.000	0.048	0.048	0.049	0.100	5,850,000
OM00000002200 AHLI BANK	100	14	1	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.137	0.137	0.000	0.000	0.140	0.131	0.139	0.100	226,003,073
OM00000002820 GULF INVEST SERVICES HOLDING	280,151	18,566	14	0.069	0.070	0.069	0.070	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.070	0.069	0.070	0.100	4,119,025
OM00000003281 TAJER FINANCE	53,146	4,783	5	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.000	0.000	0.090	0.090	0.095	0.100	22,823,100
OM00000003521 GALFAR ENGINEERING AND CON	629,912	33,418	31	0.053	0.054	0.053	0.053	0.053	0.000	0.000	0.053	0.053	0.054	0.100	15,368,974
OM00000004420 BANK NIZWA	64,639	6,528	7	0.102	0.102	0.100	0.101	0.101	0.000	0.000	0.100	0.101	0.102	0.100	151,500,000
OM00000004735 SEMBOOR SALALAH	153	17	1	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.000	0.000	0.114	0.114	0.114	0.100	198,812,000
OM00000004768 AL MADINA TAKAFUL	325,450	25,060	8	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.077	0.000	0.000	0.077	0.076	0.077	0.100	13,475,000
OM00000004933 AL SUWADI POWER	89,230	4,927	2	0.056	0.056	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.000	0.000	0.055	0.055	0.056	0.100	39,292,349
OM00000007084 MUSCAT CITY DESALINATION	500	54	1	0.108	0.108	0.108	0.108	0.108	0.000	0.000	0.108	0.103	0.108	0.100	16,799,443
OM00000002275 SHELL OMAN MARKETING	100,645	84,474	4	0.860	0.860	0.856	0.856	0.840	0.004	0.476	0.860	0.820	0.860	0.100	79,430,000
OM00000001483 NATIONAL BANK OF OMAN	64,000	11,442	4	0.180	0.180	0.178	0.179	0.180	-0.001	-0.556	0.178	0.170	0.178	0.100	291,044,398
OM00000007811 MUSANDAM POWER	8,000	2,612	10	0.328	0.328	0.326	0.326	0.328	-0.002	-0.610	0.326	0.324	0.326	0.100	22,947,140
OM00000005983 PHEONIX POWER	153,000	8,418	11	0.055	0.056	0.055	0.055	0.056	-0.001	-1.788	0.056	0.055	0.056	0.100	80,443,893
OM00000001962 AL MADINA INVESTMENT	396,200	9,510	12	0.025	0.025	0.024	0.024	0.025	-0.001	-4.000	0.024	0.024	0.025	0.100	4,971,653
OM00000001301 DHOFAR CATTLE FEED	13,000	1,287	2	0.099	0.099	0.099	0.099	0.110	-0.011	-10.000	0.099	0.110	0.000	0.100	8,004,150
OM00000003141 ACWA POWER BARKA	9,570	4,661	2	0.478	0.478	0.478	0.478	0.506	-0.118	-19.799	0.478	0.000	0.478	0.100	76,480,000
Total	28	7,043,375	1,072,007	239											

China's new export rules to change game over TikTok



TECHNOLOGY: China has updated a list of technologies banned for export to include categories that could apply to the video-sharing app TikTok. -dw

BEIJING: A recent update to technology export rules in China could give Beijing the final say on whether the forced sale of video-sharing app TikTok's US business will be approved, a Chinese trade expert told state media late on Saturday. On Friday, the Chinese Ministry of Commerce announced it had added 23 items to a list of technologies that are banned or restricted for export. It was the first revision to the list in 12 years. The new items include "personalised information service technology based on data analysis" and "AI interface technology." These new categories would apply to TikTok and technologies held by ByteDance, the app's Beijing-based parent company, Professor Cui Fan of China's University of International Business and Economics said in an interview with the state-run Xinhua news agency published late Saturday. "If ByteDance plans to export-related technologies, it should go

through the licensing procedures," Cui said in an interview with Xinhua published on Saturday. Preliminary approval to export the technology can take up to 30 days. Selling part of the business to a US company could require transferring software codes or usage rights to the new owner of TikTok from China to overseas, Cui said. "Therefore, it is recommended that ByteDance seriously studies the adjusted catalogue and carefully considers whether it is necessary to suspend" negotiations on a sale, he said. US President Donald Trump has ordered ByteDance to sell its US operations to a US firm within 90 days, citing security concerns over access to personal data. Contenders to purchase include tech giants Microsoft and Oracle. TikTok has said it will challenge Trump's executive order. China's foreign ministry has also condemned the order, saying Beijing will defend the rights and interests of Chinese businesses. -dw

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Virtual summit aims to enable cross-border collaboration, promote enduring partnerships

Times News Service

Muscat: Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit (GMIS) 2020 will continue to strive to enable cross-border collaboration, promote enduring partnerships, and contribute to achieving prosperity across the world. Close to 100 influential global leaders are set to speak at the GMIS 2020 virtual summit to be held on September 4 and 5. The Global Manufacturing and Industrialisation Summit were launched to build bridges between manufacturers, governments and NGOs, technologists, and investors to shape the future of the manufacturing sector and highlight the role of fourth industrial revolution technologies to enable the regeneration of the global economy in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The first two editions of the Summit were held in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates in March 2017, and Yekaterinburg, Russia in July 2019, respectively, with each welcoming over 3,000 high-level delegates from over 40 countries. The third edition of the summit (#GMIS2020) was initially planned to take place in April 2020 alongside Hannover Messe 2020 in Germany under the theme of #GermanyConnects - inspired by the country's leadership in connecting the global manufac-



Sultan Al-Jaber, UAE Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology. turing and industrial community with its transformational digital and technological solutions. Following the growing concerns over the escalating coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, #GMIS2020 was moved to a virtual summit. GMIS has announced that Dr Sultan Al-Jaber, UAE Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology will be taking on the role of co-Chair of GMIS, alongside LI Yong, Director General of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO). GMIS aims to place manufacturing at the heart of economic regeneration and government policymaking and to be a tool for global

cooperation and collaboration. Dr Sultan Al-Jaber, who is scheduled to deliver a keynote on the first day of the virtual summit, was recently appointed to lead the newly-formed UAE Ministry of Industry and Advanced Technology. The new ministry will work towards implementing the vision of the UAE's leadership, enhancing the contribution of advanced technology to the sustainability of economic growth, raising the efficiency and competitiveness of the industrial sector, supporting strategic industries that contribute to advancing the national economy, and nurturing in-country-value to increase the gross domestic product. The virtual summit is taking place during a time where the COVID-19 pandemic has placed public health systems and the global economy under severe strain, reinforcing the pressing need for a cross-industrial and cross-functional platform for leaders to share their experiences and knowledge related to advancing manufacturing through the application of fourth industrial revolution technologies, and building more resilient global value chains in a post-pandemic world. The Summit will continue to strive to enable cross-border collaboration, promote enduring partnerships, and contribute to restoring global prosperity in our world, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

LI Yong, Director General of UNIDO, said, "I welcome the presence of Sultan Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology of the United Arab Emirates. UNIDO has co-operated extensively with the Government of the United Arab Emirates through GMIS and several other initiatives, especially the Abu Dhabi Declaration on advanced technology, and we look forward to enhancing this relationship in the years to come. No matter how influential, no one actor can control this phenomenon alone." Under the theme - Globalisation: Towards Sustainable and Inclusive Global Value Chains, the #GMIS2020 Virtual Summit will feature a cross-section of close to 100 influential global leaders from the public and private sector, including Heads of State, Ministers, and thought-leaders from some of the world's leading organizations. The summit will feature more than 20 virtual sessions, including keynote addresses, panel discussions, and fireside chats, and will cover topics such as Germany's 'Marshall Plan with Africa' and the 'Global Hydrogen Economy', as well as key topics impacting global value chains, the adoption of 4IR technologies, localising production capabilities and capacity building, and spreading inclusive and sustainable industrial development.

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Indian Male, 12 Yrs. experience in Oman, seeks job for HR/Admin/Office Asst./Secretary. Contact 96992190 / 97841713

Seeking job in, Admin, HR & Recruitment, Business development, experience 17 + years in Oman at Senior level with valid D/L and NOC/ Release Contact 96238522

Indian Male with total 23+ years of experience, 16+ years in UAE in Property Management/ Office Administration/ Import & Export with excellent communication skills, holder of UAE driving license is seeking a suitable placement. # 71914993, masood_ki@yahoo.com

ARCHITECT

Architect/ Urban planner with 9 years experience in Oman seeking a job. Contact 96146645.

DRIVER

Looking job of driver with 9 years experience in Oman. #93191575

Looking job for driver, 5 yrs experience in Oman market. Languages known English, Arabic, Hindi. Contact 79163077

Looking for driving job, having 6 yrs exp. Knowing English, Arabic & Hindi. Contact 97133246

Looking for driving job, 3 yrs experience in Muscat. Contact 96196278

Looking for driving job with Car or without. Have 3 yrs experience. Contact 95283531

Looking for Driver Job. # 93227735

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Contact 968-71532254

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9+ years in Gulf & 7+ Years in a managerial role in Oman. Engineering background with MBA in HSE, Nebosh IGC, INTL. Dip.Nebosh, 3 CPD-UK certificates, etc., seeks senior/manager the position holds Oman driving license & NOC, can join immediately.

Contact details: 99377048

JOB WANTED

INDIAN MALE, EXPERIENCE
23YEARS (18YEARS GCC) IN
ELV/BMS/FIRE SYSTEMS,
SEEKS JOB WITH NOC.

**CONTACT 72144127,
RAMESH4974@GMAIL.COM**

ACCOUNT/ADMIN

Omani 6 yrs exp
in Account/Admin
with diploma.

**Contact 99340475
saidzadjali@gmail.com**

Piping / Stress Engineer

Indian, 36 male, Piping / stress Engineer,
13+years experience in onshore / offshore
/ pipeline in Oil & Gas. Knowledge in Caesar,
AutoCAD, Mavis work, MsOffice, PDS
looking for suitable job, join immediately.

**Contact no. 94342605;
shahahmed142@gmail.com**

SENIOR MANAGER / PROJECT DIRECTOR – CIVIL ENGINEERING

Very widely experienced both in
Consultancy and Construction looking for
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or on partnership.

**Contact: winnerdandd@gmail.com
Mobile/WhatsApp 95150850, 79163390**

CIVIL ENGINEER

Indian Male 30, BE Civil Engineer with 9
yrs exp. Knowledge of Autocad, MS Office
& Project, looking for suitable job (joining
immediately). With Oman DL.

**Ph. 79229118
Email: palankar.neal@gmail.com**

PLANNING ENGINEER had 13 years of
experience in Oil and Gas, EPC, Construction
Projects as Sr. Project Controller and Planning
Engineer using Primavera (P6), worked with
OQ, OGC, PDO, OOCPE, BP, Tatweer Petroleum
(Bahrain), BAUER. **NOC available.**

**Contact 95263661 / 90913876
Email narasimha42@gmail.com**

Contracts Manager / Project Manager

Indian Male BE Civil Engineer with 13+ Year's Experience in
Oman, Knowledge in AutoCAD, MS Office, Staad Pro, Water
Cad, 3D, Project scheduling, BBS & other softwares. Widely
experienced all over construction field including landscape &
irrigation, structural erection, portacabin, MEP, Consultation,
Tendering, Bidding etc., looking for suitable placement. Ready
to join immediately with D/L & NOC.

**GSM: 98446050
E mail:deneeshdaniel@gmail.com**

Senior Construction Professional Looking for Employment

Chartered Engineer (UK) with B. Tech (Civil)
with over 18 years experience in Construction, Facility
Management & Cost Management. Currently working as
Assistant General Manager in a reputed Group in Oman.
Seeking opportunities in a reputed company.

Contact Email - promanagement2000@gmail.com

Bsc In Civil Engineering, MBA in Project Management, PMP certified, having 14 yrs experience(12yrs in Oman) with experience of construction of 4 star hotel, Airports, commercial & residential buildings, factories, Oil stations, is looking for a suitable placement. Having Oman Driving licence.

Contact 99721926, tanvircivil@gmail.com

NOTICE

Maeen AlKhair Trad & Cont AS-STD company announces that it is registered with the commercial register secretariat at the Ministry of Trad & Industry under No 3244245 announces that it is in the process of transferring its legal from AS-STD - company to L.L.C company in accordance with Article No 30 of the Commercial Companies Law No. 2019/18 .. and its amendment and on the all anyone who objects to this must submit the reasons for his objection to the Commercial Registry Secretariat at the Ministry of Trad & Industry within a period of one month from the date publishing of this announcement.

JOB WANTED

MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

B.Tech in Civil Engineering (structural), 23 yrs fresher(trained for 5 months)seeking job as structural Engineering, familiar with various software. Contact 78274434.Email mohammedarshadjunaid@gmail.com

Indian well experienced sr accountant or Chief accountant, looking for suitable placement. Contact 95362046. Email sr-jobinoman@yahoo.com

AutoCAD Draftsman with 8 years of Oman Experience, Architecture & Structural drafting. N.O.C available Contact: 78253720

HSE OFFICER, 15 years experience. Seeking job to join a reputed firm. Contact WhatsApp-968-99626821

Accountant Indian Male 26yrs with MBA Finance having 5yrs experience, 3yrs in Oman looking for suitable position of an Accountant. NOC Available. GSM: 95394439. Email: mohdanas040@gmail.com

A Technical Graduate with around 2 Years' Experience in HR-Admin, seeks opportunity in HR, Administration, Desktop-Support(IT), Data Entry or IT Teacher.IELTS: 6.5-Bands.Contact/ WhatsApp: +968949773471.Email: hshak-javeed@gmail.com

Indian/male (28)/MBA/4 years' experience in procurement and coordination with valid Oman. licence. Available for immediate joining. Contact: 92536194. Email:suhailbs@gmail.com

Mechanical engineer - NIT Surat, Gujarat, India - Oman resident with DL - one year work experience - Contact: 91756930

Indian male M.Tech(ECE) 4 yrs exp. as a Sales Engineer in Industrial Automation, PLC, SCADA with a valid Saudi D/L. Looking for a good opportunity. # 98240758 mohdrashidali87@gmail.com

Indian 15 yrs Oman experience B.Com, ICWA9(Inter) PGDBM head-ed Finance,logistics established Company. 93870808, 93883272

Electrical Engineer 4 yrs 6 months experience with NOC available. Contact 90863138.Email guntisiddharth@gmail.com

An Experienced HR Professional (Indian) (around 2 Years) seeks opportunity in HR, Administration, IT-Support, Data Entry or IT Teacher. Can Join Immediately.IELTS: 6.5-Bands. Contact 94977347. Email: hshakjaveed@gmail.com

Civil Engineer Contact 78012115

Indian Male HR /Admin - MBA , BCOM having 9 years experience in Gulf 5 yr and India 4 yr looking for suitable placement.# 97914340. Email: rahulkv30@yahoo.com

JOB WANTED

DESIGNER/AUTOCAD D/MAN

18+ years experienced in Pre-press and Graphic Designing with renowned commercial Printing Press and Newspaper Publisher, male expatriet looking for placement, residing in Muscat. Contact: 99663123 E-mail: deytapash@gmail.com

Indian Male, Civil Draughtsman. 11yrs of experience.5yrs & 10 months of Oman experience.NOC available seeking suitable placement. Contact 91226236 Email: tonymxx@gmail.com

ENGINEER

Project Engr/Project Manager- Civil Engineering,15 yr Exp.in Building construction looking suitable position. Contact 93807689 or elayarajang@gmail.com

Electrical engineer, experience 12 year in Oman seeks job. Contact 98148034

BSc. Civil Engineer 12 years experience in construction and road works. Contact 99715328

Civil Engineer, Indian-male 49, Diploma Civil Engineer, Exp 29 years(17 years Oman). Looking suitable Job (Joining immediately) with Oman DL, Contact 96229731

HVAC Engineer/MEP Coordinator, BE Mechanical engineering having 9+ yrs of experience including 5+ yrs in Oman. Efficient in design, BOM, project follow up, valid Omani DL. Looking for any full time/part time job. Contact 91690765

Planning Engineer (B.E Civil) with 6 years experience in Construction of Buildings/Infra/Roads with primavera/MS projects, looking for a suitable placement. NOC and D/L available. Contact 93314353

24, Indian male, Diploma in Mechanical Engineering with Oman valid D/L. 1yr work experience in Oman, Can join immediately. Contact no. 79121923/99224057

B.Sc Civil engineer 30 yrs Oman experience in Project management & structure design,looking for suitable placement in consulting/contracting. Contact 968-99349578

Civil Engineer (Structural). Comfortable with drafting, design, estimation and site supervision. Currently on visit visa. Contact 78274434. Email mohammedarshadjunaid@gmail.com

Purchase engineer, Btech/MBA, NOC Available, Immediate joining, 3 years Oman experience, manufacturing/Contact/Whatsapp +96891740462. Email eliaspallathra@gmail.com

Civil engineer 12 years experience in oman NOC available # 98047527

BSc. Electrical engineer 6+ years HV/LV experience, Doqm Refinery exp.IOSH+6 Safety courses D/L, Contact 79474387

Project engineer, B.tech-civil, India, 12yrs Oman exp in all kinds operation of civil construction, interior fit out and electro mechanical field with valued Visa and D/L. Contact 95206259, 98857994

IT

Indian female having 8 yrs experience in the field of software testing and administration looking for a suitable job. Contact no : 91711326

IT operations manager in a field of IT service management with 12+ years of experience is looking for suitable position. Presently in Malaysia. Contact no:+60163721367. Email id:azmat.aly@gmail.com

PURCHASE/LOGISTICS

Senior Procurement Engineer, M.tech-Civil, Looking for a job, NOC Available, Immediate Joining, Indian Male, 38yrs, have over 16+ years UAE& Oman experience. E. syedkamaalsaba@yahoo.com, Whatsapp +96871144578, Contact +917766019519

Procurement specialist/logistic coordinator, 8+ yrs experience in Oman with MNC Oil & Gas co.D/L & NOC available. Contact 96095376

Indian male Purchase Assistant - documentation M.Sc Computer science 26 yrs old.experience 2 yrs Oman with valid license. NOC available. Visa status- employment. Email tujukrl@gmail.com

16 yrs Oman experience in procurement,logistics& customs with valid Oman DL & NOC seeking suitable position. Contact 95174968

MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

Accounts Manager working in a reputed company in Oman for 13 year's looking for immediate job. Release available. Contact 99883983

Mechanical Engineer (B.tech) having 5 years Oman experience as Sr Production And Procurement Engineer is seeking suitable job in Oman. Also have Oman D/L and NOC is available. Contact 92138450 WhatsApp +919544074049

Senior Copywriter with 21 years Oman experience seeks placement in Ad Agencies/Corporate Communications. Call 95234657.

Smart Indian, Professional with integrity, Arabic speaker, double Masters, excellent English, commercial acumen, strategy, 15 years rich Oman experience in Airport Project, Hospital, Media, EPC.99283938. NOC

Smart Indian, Arabic speaker, Excellent English, Masters-Journalism, Finance, Oman experience in Corporate/Marketing Communications, Press Releases, CSR Programs, Marketing, Customer Relations, Events, Campaigns,. #99283938. NOC

Indian male, 31 Age, Single, B.E (Civil), 10Years experience in the construction field (7 years in Oman & 3 years in India), NOC available, seeking job for the post of Project engineer. # 79218189, ganeshkumargk1188 @gmail.com

IT System administrator Indian male 28 BE CSE CCNA graduate with 5 yrs experience in Indian looking for suitable job.On visit .Contact 93674784

MECHANIC/TECHNIC.

Civil / MEP Draughtsman (Indian- aged 35) having 13 years of oman experience seeking a better placement. Valid oman driving licence. NOC available. Contact 98079806. Email shirshadbabu@gmail.com

SALES / MARKETING

Indian male experience in Sales and Marketing for 12 years with Driving License looking for suitable placement. Contact 92085257

Indian male, 18yrs of experience in outdoor sales of FMCG and electronics is seeking suitable placement. DL and NOC available. Contact 91290046

B.E Civil Indian M 24 Y Sales Exp in Sales/Marketing/Team Lead/ Manager/Business Development. Available in Oman with NOC. Looking for Any Job. Contact 78186546

Building material hardware, electrical Salesman. Contact 99624747, 99448122, 99441938

Indian Male 32, having over 9 years of oman exp in sales & Marketing ls seeking for a suitable placement. NOC & Valid Oman Driving license available Gsm 92460904

Filipino, male with more than 10 years experience in Oman as Sales associate, customer service, administrative office, real estate, rent a car, purchaser and Logistics with driving license. Contact 97761075

MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

23 Years Indian Male, Diploma In Mechanical Engineering. 1 Years work experience in Oman. Available on family join visa. Looking for suitable placement. Contact 968- 79121923, 99224057

An Experienced HR Professional (around 2 Years) seeks opportunity in HR, Administration, IT-Support, Data Entry or IT Teacher. Can Join Immediately.IELTS: 6.5-Bands. # 949773471 Email hshakjaveed@gmail.com

Indian Female, B.E. in Electronics & Communication + CCNA (Routing & Switching) fresher,studied in Oman, looking for suitable placements.Contact 99636352

Indian Male-43 yrs. Experience in trailer driver, GCC holding valid heavy licence.Seeking suitable job. NOC available. Mob - 99449686, 91- 9526956869.

Female, Planning Engineer, BE Mech, 13 years experience with oil & gas Engineering Field and construction Projects seeking a suitable job Contact no : 97408929

Diploma in Electrical Engineer (8 years Experience in Installation of LT line, Vendor Coordination, Arrange Quotation from supplier for Tender/Work)# 91-9771492886

Filipino male w/ release. , with 8 years exp. in OMAN: ADMIN, accounting, purchasing, Knows Tally ERP 9 and microsoft's excel, 97890657, email: hernandezjanlouis27@gmail.com

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Part time Accounts/Data entry. Experienced Accountant looking for part time Accounts/Data entry job. Please contact: 98649698

Indian Male, 15 years Oman experience with valid Oman D/L looking for job in sales. NOC available. Contact 95356820

Result driven business manager seeking an opportunity where 15 years of trading and management experience can be applied to improve the sales and enhancing the company revenue. # 95124176

Indian Male 29 years B.E(Civil) having 6 yr Gulf experience as Project coordinator looking for suitable placement. Oman D/L # 99682689. fayiz.yh@gmail.com

Indian Male HR /Admin and Purchase - MBA ,BCOM having 9years experience in Gulf 5 yr and India 4 yr looking for suitable placement. Contact : 97914340. Email: binthjumatrading@gmail.com

Indian Male - Accountant MCOM, BCOM having 7years experience in Gulf 4yr and India 3yr looking for suitable placement. # 97432723 tonythomasjohn777@gmail.com

Looking part-time housemaid job surrounding area of Ghobra / Aziba like cooking, washing & cleaning post-delivery support, baby care. contact 79293053.

Male, looking for a job in administration or office coordinator, extremely familiar with the Oman market Not looking into Sales or Marketing. Looking forward to hearing from potential companies. Having D/L. # 93264375 email: vpnandakishore@gmail.com

Draftsman 2 years' experience. Looking for suitable job (Indian male). Contact 968 93083224/919791452601. Email: elaison.c@gmail.com

Indian Female 10 years, experience As Cook, South Indian,Gujarati Special,looking For Part Time. Contact : 95795971

Indian Male (30), MBA-Finance, 6 years experience in electrical and lighting industry as Sales Executive-project sales (outdoor), specialized in lighting for residential and commercial projects. Contact 94560161. Email gaisebukhari@gmail.com

Situation Wanted* Mechanical engineer specialized in quality inspection with cswip 3.1 & ASNT LEVEL II certifications looking for an opening in oil & gas industry. currently in Muscat. # 96206400 or (awrunedathil@gmail.com

Indian male Diploma (Cinematography) & BA English with 5 yrs of experience in sales and Marketing field Seeking suitable placement. currently in Oman on visit. Contact 78150989. alexthomas927@gmail.com

B.Tech Electrical Engineer Indian male with 11 yrs of experience in contracting and consultant firms. Looking for job with Valid GCC driving licenwse available. Contact 968-94343694. Email: ymansoor2@gmail.com

Filipino Bathr. Interior Designer / IT Specialist/Graphic Designer,13 years Exp. Looking for a job immediately with NOC and valid Omani D/L.Contact 79042628. Email zaldy08@gmail.com



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Indian well experienced sr accountant or Chief accountant, looking for suitable placement. Contact 95362046. Email srjobinoman@yahoo.com

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Electrical Engineer 4 yrs 6 months experience with NOC available. Contact 90863138. Email guntisiddharth@gmail.com

An Experienced HR Professional (Indian) (around 2 Years) seeks opportunity in HR, Administration, IT-Support, Data Entry or IT Teacher. Can Join Immediately On visit expires 6th Feb. IELTS: 6.5-Bands. Phone / WhatsApp: +968 94977347. Email: hshakjaveed@gmail.com

Civil Engineer Contact 78012115

Indian Male HR /Admin - MBA , BCOM having 9 years experience in Gulf 5 yr and India 4 yr looking for suitable placement. # 97914340. Email: rahulkv30@yahoo.com

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MISCELLANEOUS (FOC)

Filipino Bathr. Interior Designer / IT Specialist/Graphic Designer, 13 years Exp. Looking for a job immediately with NOC and valid Omani D/L. Contact 79042628. Email zaldy08@gmail.com

33 Year old Indian male With 12+ Years' Experience As Operation Supervisor Project Expeditor /Quality Control in Oil & Gas , Water Line Industry. Contact 596661571. nasir03ahmed@outlook.com

Filipino, female 41 B.Sc accounting mgt., with 10 years' experience in Oman: admin, accounting, finance, secretarial, ticketing. Knowledge with excel. 96901439 email lorelie_a@yahoo.com

B.Com Graduate with four years of experience in Sales & Marketing in Oman with D/L. Can join immediately. Contact 93568656

Diploma holder 5 yrs work experience Indian male 26, looking for Indoor slaes/merchandiser, office assistant. Contact 968-78093683, whatsapp-94158447

Indian male 29 yrs having 5 yrs experience in FMCG sales & marketing in Oman with D/L. Can join immediately. Contact 78057807. Email nozi70072@gmail.com

MA B.Ed in English language, Indian female, 5 yrs experience in teaching seeking suitable positions in schools. Currently in Oman on family visa. # 79716167, 24033571

HSE Officer, 15 years experience. Seeking job to join a reputed firm. Contact WhatsApp 99626821

Indian Male (30) 8 Year's Experience in Sales and marketing and Office Administration on visit ,seeking a challenging careers. D/L available. Contact 9412 2402 Email: shinto.samuelit@gmail.com

Indian male, 24 years holding a bachelor's in management and Masters in finance, presently pursuing ACCA. Looking for relevant job, holding valid GCC driving license. Contact 98189064 Email shahahr806@gmail.com

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ROUND-UP

3 STAR SILVER AWARD

GAC awarded for after-sales excellence by Mitsubishi Motors MEA



MUSCAT: General Automotive Company (GAC), the official distributors for Mitsubishi vehicles in Oman, was recently awarded the '3 Star Silver Award' in the After-Sales Business Excellence Programme for the year 2019 by Mitsubishi Motors Middle East and Africa (MEA).

It received this award for its outstanding after-sales service and customer care, GAC was the only dealership to have received this accolade from the region.

On receiving the award, Manoj Ranade, General Manager of GAC, said, "For GAC to be selected for this award is indeed a great honour. For us to have received this prestigious award is a testament to our commitment to our customers and towards achieving after-sales excellence in Oman. It is also very encouraging for our team here at

As Mitsubishi's official distributor, GAC is committed to excellence and continues to invest heavily in its employees. GAC boasts a highly motivated and qualified workforce, dedicated to maximising customer satisfaction, right from the moment they walk into the showroom for the first time through every stage of the ownership experience

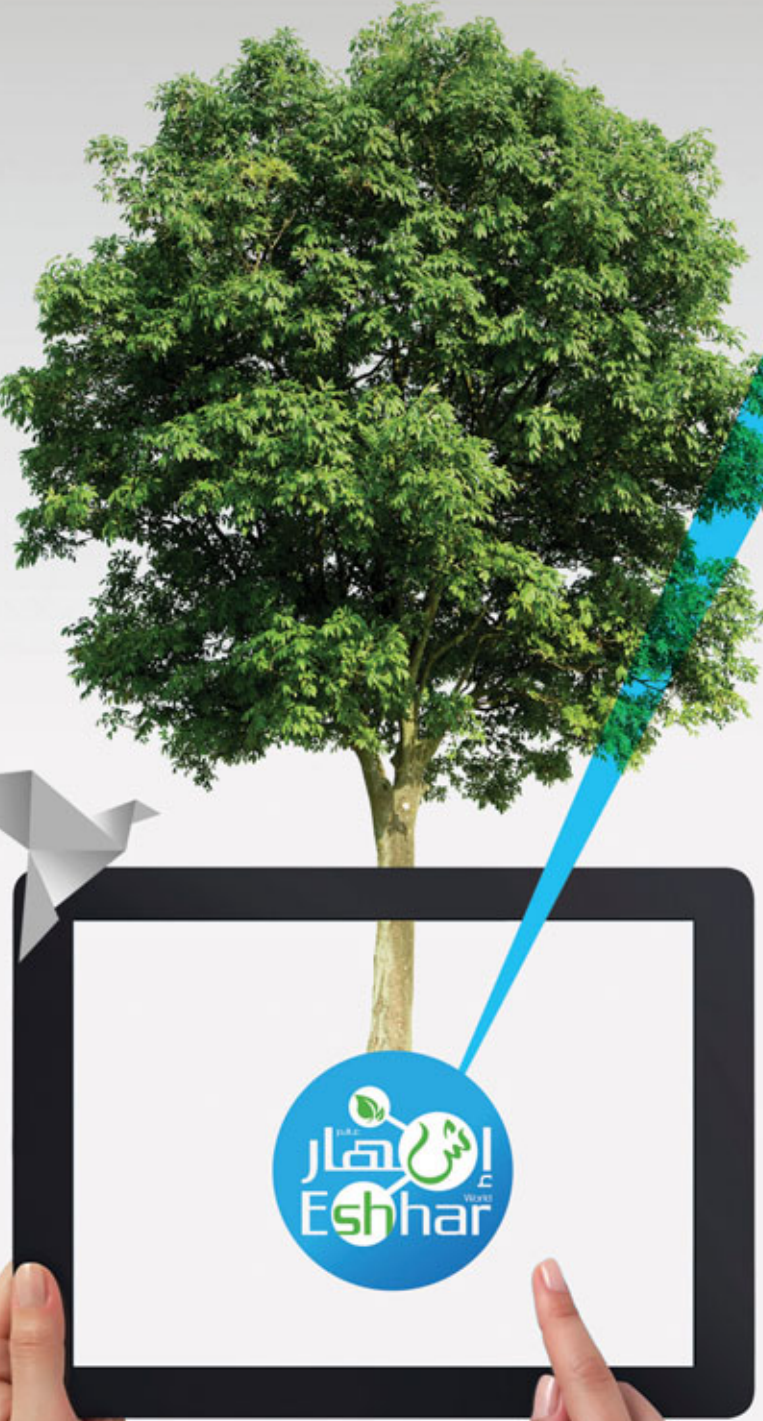
GAC, for it is their consistent hard work and dedication towards their job and their customers that have truly earned us this recognition."

The Mitsubishi brand enjoys one of the largest and most loyal customer bases in the Sultanate, and for good reason. As its official

distributor, GAC is committed to excellence and continues to invest heavily in its employees. As a result, GAC boasts a highly motivated and qualified workforce, dedicated to maximising customer satisfaction, right from the moment they walk into the showroom for the first time through every stage of the ownership experience.

"When purchasing a car, after-sales service is almost always a key deciding factor. This is because, excellent after-sales service ensures a customer a trouble-free ownership experience for years to come. To be sole dealership to have won this award in the region is a source of great pride for us at GAC. It shows the dedication of every member of our team to provide our customers with the highest quality service," added Ashraf Osman, National Service Manager of GAC.

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TFMOman

Bank Muscat rewards 30 customers for salary transfer draws for July

Bank Muscat's salary transfer draws was held along with the monthly draws in other categories in line with the bank's commitment to encouraging a savings culture in Oman and 30 winners were chosen in the salary transfer segment

MUSCAT: Bank Muscat, the leading financial services provider in the Sultanate, in step with its vision 'To serve you better, everyday' and commitment to partnership in encouraging a savings culture in Oman, recently held its salary transfer draws for July. The event was held at the bank's head office along with the monthly draws in other categories in line with the bank's commitment to encouraging a savings culture in Oman and 30 winners were chosen in the salary transfer segment. Overall, more than OMR800,000 was given away to winners across multiple customer segments during the monthly draw. All customers who transfer their salaries to Al Mazyona accounts are eligible to be entered into the salary transfer draws. Al Mazyona rewards 15 winners every month from among those with salaries between OMR500 and OMR999, and winners were chosen during the draw for July.



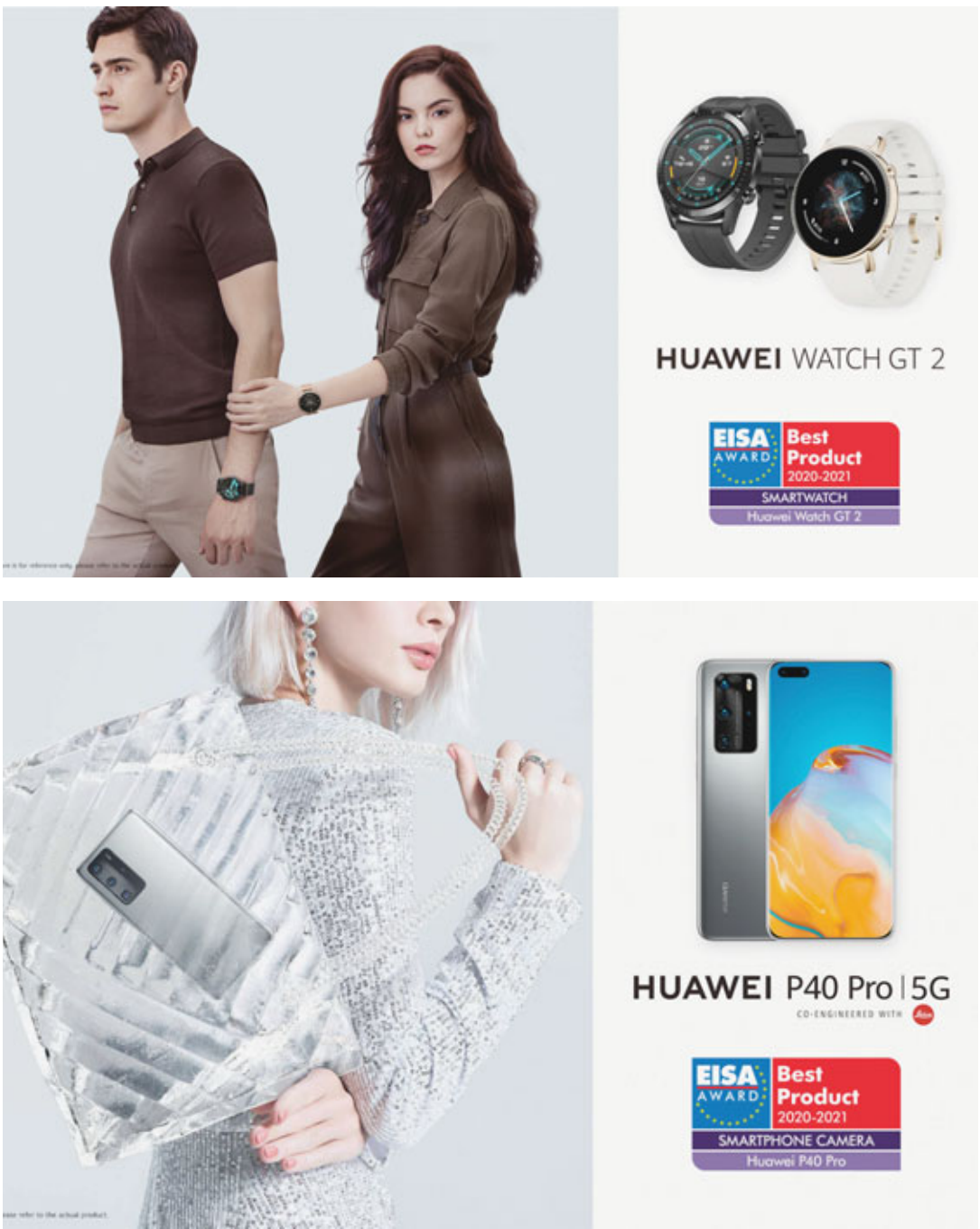
These winners will be paid a monthly salary prize of OMR500 for a whole year as a reward for choosing Al Mazyona salary accounts. Similarly, 15 winners were chosen from among those whose salaries are above OMR1,000 and will similarly receive OMR500 every month for a whole year. In 2020, Bank Muscat lined up the largest number of high-value prizes in the country with 6,677 winners all set to be rewarded for their savings habit. Both the number of prizes and the total prize money have been increased across different customer segments this year. Bank Muscat recently celebrated the special mid-year draw at its head office. Over OMR1 million was given in high-value prizes to the lucky winners including 2 special prizes of OMR250,000 each. The live streaming of the prize draws on the official social media channels like Twitter, Instagram and YouTube are generating keen interest from the bank's customers and the general public. The bank is proud of the success

so far achieved by Al Mazyona in promoting the concept of savings in the Omani society. Apart from allowing customers to realise their dreams, the scheme is also contributing majorly to the development of Oman and encouraging financial prudence amongst the general public. Al Mazyona is designed to transform the lives of prudent savers and special prizes are reserved for different customer segments including Premier Banking, regional, youth, women and children's account categories. Special prize draws are also held on important occasions like the National Day, Omani Women's Day and the Omani Youth Day.

RECOGNITION

Huawei gets 2 accolades at EISA

MUSCAT: Huawei Consumer Business Group (CBG) received two awards from the Expert Imaging and Sound Association (EISA), a group comprising 55 of the world's most respected consumer electronics magazines. Huawei's P40 Pro was named 'EISA Smartphone Camera 2020-2021' by the Association, alongside the Huawei Watch GT 2, which won the accolade of 'Best Smartwatch 2020-2021'. The EISA called the Huawei P40 Pro "a true champion in its class," praising the phone's camera capabilities, display technology and luxurious design. The awards also praised the Huawei Watch GT 2, for its smart design and host of fitness features, calling it "a modern classic is born". The EISA recognised the 'luxurious designed' Huawei P40 Pro as the perfect companion for those who use their smartphone for taking stunning photos daily, believing the phone marked yet another impressive milestone in mobile photography. This award was won as a result of the unmatched photography capabilities of the Huawei P40 Pro, from the primary 50-megapixel Ultra Vision Camera with phase detection auto-focus and optical image stabilisation and its 12-megapixel periscope telephoto lens, allowing for 5x optical zoom, to the incredible 40-megapixel Ultra-Wide Cine Camera for advanced video capture. Added to this are the Huawei P40 Pro's ToF 3D depth Camera and AI Photography enhancement, giving users a premium technology experience which EISA has said, "pushes smartphone camera technology forward." Looking to the winner of this year's EISA "Best Smartwatch" the Huawei Watch GT 2, EISA has praised the device as it "melds the talents of modern smartwatches" for its design, AMOLED display, and physical control. With up to two-week battery life and host of fitness features, the Huawei Watch GT 2 can analyse 15 professional workout modes, and record 85 customized workout types.



With Huawei's TruSleep technology, the Huawei Watch GT 2 can track sleep quality, and can also monitor heart rate and stress level, and support SpO2 level measuring. Moreover, the Huawei Watch GT 2 cover daily life usage such as Bluetooth calling, app notification and onboard music storage, allowing users to easily pair and connect their Huawei FreeBuds 3 and listen to music on the go with their Huawei Watch GT 2. EISA members include expert media across the full spectrum of consumer electronics from 29 countries, and each member contributes to one or more of EISA's

six expert groups – namely photography, mobile devices, Hi-Fi, home theatre audio, home theatre display & video, and in-car electronics. Every year, EISA members nominate a list of products that they consider the standout performers in each of these expert groups.

OMAN ARAB BANK

OAB enhances local market presence with advanced digital service

MUSCAT: Oman Arab Bank (OAB) continues to enhance its presence in the local banking industry as one of the best-certified e-payment solutions providers. The bank has heavily invested in building an advanced digital infrastructure, capable of keeping pace with the rapid technological changes that influence the growth of businesses while enriching the digital business environment. Based on this concept, OAB's advanced e-payment gateway has emerged as one of the best e-channels for digital payments in the Omani market. Commenting on the features of this innovative technology, Rashad Al Shaikh, Acting Head of the Retail Banking Division at OAB said, "Our e-payment gateway is the only one in the market that provides direct connectivity for all types of local and international bank cards, in addition to competitive service fees and 24/7 advanced technical support. This single-integration point allows our customers to easily make transactions and accept payments from anywhere in the world. Moreover, our team supervising the gateway is always ready to facilitate the activation process for new customers, and support them in all their banking requirements." "Currently, the global market is witnessing rapid developments in the sphere of doing business, with e-commerce emerging as one of the most promising sectors. Due to changes in government services, cash transactions have declined in favour of online payments. This reinforces the need to establish more reliable digital banking solutions that enable real-time payment and seamless cash flow services. This is an extremely useful service for business owners, and especially SMEs since it prevents payment delays. As one of the most advanced local financial institutions, we see it as our responsibility



to provide advanced solutions and accelerate digital transformation in both the public and private sector," Rashad added. For several years now Oman Arab Bank has been on the path to promote growth through innovation. Its transformation strategy is based on strategic pillars, the most important being enabling innovation across various business activities. This is possible through the development and implementation of advanced, state-of-the-art technologies. The bank has proven the effectiveness of its vision by successfully activating new digital channels and solutions during the COVID-19 crisis, generating widespread acclaim. OAB continues to maintain its position as one of the most prominent providers of digital services in the local banking sector. OAB has a rich and proud history as one of the first financial institutions established in the Sultanate. Today, the bank operates a nationwide network of 55 branches and representative offices with 152 ATMs spread across Oman. OAB provides a complete range of financial products and services for personal banking and corporate banking clients.

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91489216

DAKHILIYAH GOVERNORATE
91427397

INTERNATIONAL
+968 92465332